

THE TIMES
Monday

Doctor
The rehabilitation of Boris Pasternak (below). Spectrum looks at the chances of Dr Zhivago being published at last in Russia



In the House
In the first of two articles from Ottawa on the Canadian political scene, Ivan Barnes reports on the Liberal Party

Market place
After the failure of the Athens summit, Pierre Mauroy, the French Prime Minister, charts the way ahead for the EEC

Up for the Cup
The draw for the Third Round of the FA Cup

Spanish 'pilots' strike threat
Spain's commercial pilots yesterday threatened to strike unless ground radar and proper signal lights are installed at Barajas airport, Madrid, where two jets collided in heavy fog on Wednesday, killing 93 people. No date for a walk-out has been set

Crash inquiry, page 5

Lowest pound
The pound sank further against the dollar, closing at a record low of \$1.4355. The dollar finished at a record high against the French franc and a 10-year high against the Deutsche mark

Page 21

Exam report
Social class differences are the main reason for wide variations in children's examination results, an "experimental" Department of Education report says

Page 3

Prior mourns
Two thousand mourners, including Mr James Prior, attended a funeral service for Mr Edgar Graham, the Official Unionist politician murdered by the IRA

Page 2

Sex Bill lost
The Sex Equality Bill, a private member's measure designed to increase women's rights, was defeated in the Commons by 198 votes to 118. The public gallery had been crowded with women

Parliament, page 4

Gold in favour
The sharp recovery in the gold price has turned unit trust investors' attention to the bullion market

Family Money, page 25

NGA faces weekend of decision after £525,000 fines

● The National Graphical Association was fined a total of £525,000 yesterday for contempt of court in picketing the Stockport Messenger printing plant
● Mr Justice Eastham said at the High Court in Manchester that the union's main objective was "to use its muscle to try to destroy the business" of Mr Shah
● Four days of talks at the offices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service ended yesterday with the NGA and Mr Shah as far apart as ever (Page 2)
● If the contempt fine brings a printing strike many regional and local newspapers could weather it by using non-union labour and new technology (Page 2)

By Paul Routledge and David Felton

Industrial action on a national scale in the newspaper and printing industry came much closer after fines totalling £525,000 were imposed yesterday on the National Graphical Association for contempt of court orders made under the Government's trade union legislation.

The fines ordered by Mr Justice Eastham in the High Court in Manchester are the biggest cash penalty ever levied by a British court and the money will be recovered from assets frozen by an earlier judgment of the court.

Leaders of the NGA meet in Bedford today to discuss the next step in their defiance of the 1980 and 1982 Employment Acts and the orders made to cease picketing the Warrington, Cheshire, plant of Messenger Group newspapers.

Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the craft print union, said early yesterday after the breakdown of peace talks with Mr Selim ("Eddie") Shah that a national strike beginning next week was now a "very real possibility" and further mass picketing at Warrington is also expected.

Fleet Street will be the first to be hit by a conference during working hours called on Monday by fathers of the national newspaper NGA chapels (office branches) who were "outraged" by the latest fines. One said that the consequences of the court's action would be "down to Mr Shah".

Fleet Street printers are already under a High Court injunction not to disrupt production over the Messenger closed shop dispute. TUC leaders, who are div-

ided in their support for the NGA's continuing defiance of the Government's labour laws, have been called to an emergency meeting of the employment policy and organization committee on Monday night, and behind-the-scenes moves to forestall a national strike are likely.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary for Trade and Industry and author of the 1982 Employment Act, yesterday urged caution. "It would be wise if everybody concerned took a long deep breath, especially in Fleet Street, and if the union members concerned consider very deeply whether they wish to close down some of the newspapers forever, over what is really a very small dispute in which some people are being required to join a union which they do not wish to join."

"The Government cannot prevent a strike. If people want to go on strike there is nothing we can do. But they will have to take into consideration the consequences which will flow from it." His remarks indicate clearly that the Government will not heed Opposition pleas to intervene in the dispute.

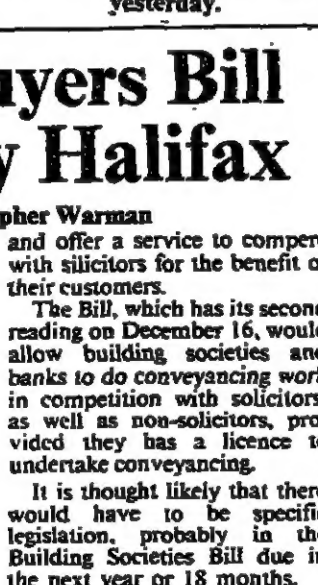
Imposing the fines, Mr Justice Eastham accused the NGA of using its muscle to try to destroy the business of Mr Shah. Referring to the scenes of violent picketing that took place last week, he said: "Any law-abiding citizen would have been shocked that any such thing could have happened in England and should take place at the instigation of union leaders responsible for their members."

The conduct of the union on four nights in the last two weeks since the order to cease picketing was granted amounted to "blatant, deliberate breaches of the order and a very serious contempt of court", the judge said. He had twice warned the NGA that it risked fines of increasing severity after earlier fines of £50,000 and £100,000.

The union has now been fined a total of £525,000 for contempt, and its entire assets of more than £10m are in the hands of court-appointed sequestrators.

Mr Shah said after the hearing: "These amounts of money means nothing to me. It is between the union and the court. All the NGA has to do is obey the law. I assume that they are going to escalate the dispute once again."

The dispute had now become a point of principle, the right of people to join or not to join a trade union or closed shop. He would "definitely" lay fresh complaints against the NGA if Continued on back page, col 8



Mr Shah in Manchester yesterday.

House Buyers Bill backed by Halifax

By Christopher Warman

The Halifax Building Society, largest in the country, yesterday added its support to the House Buyers Bill, which aims to end the solicitors' monopoly of conveyancing and introduce competition into the business of house purchase.

The Bill, introduced by Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby, has all-party support, but is being strongly opposed by the Law Society, which represents 44,000 solicitors, and has many sympathisers among the Conservative backbenchers.

Commenting on the Bill, the Halifax said that conveyancing procedures were out of date and expensive, and gave a warning that building societies were prepared to take up conveyancing and compete with solicitors.

Mr John Spalding, chief general manager of the Halifax, said that conveyancing law and practice had not adapted to meet the needs of today's home-owning society. "There is now 60 per cent home-ownership in this country and procedures have not changed much since the overhaul of the law in 1925 when the figure was only 10 per cent. Home buyers are entitled to a more competitive and cost efficient service. The cost of buying and selling is too high."

It is thought likely that there would have to be specific legislation, probably in the Building Societies Bill due in the next year or 18 months.

The British Legal Association, a pressure group representing mostly smaller solicitors' businesses, is vehemently against opening conveyancing to competition.

It questions whether the "ever increasing empires" of the building societies and institutions such as banks should be enabled to deal with conveyancing "as though it was nothing more than the sale of some item which might be found in any mail order catalogue, or dispensed, like a packet of cornflakes, in a supermarket".

The association believes the way to save money in house transfers is to set up solicitors' property centres on the lines of the successful Scottish model "which avoids, in many cases, payment to an estate agent and would enable many or most houses to be sold for as little as £25".

Tass warns Nato about backing US

Moscow (AP) - The Soviet Union yesterday warned West European governments of possible "consequences" of backing a US foreign policy that has "already led to a severe cooling of the political climate in the world" and "exerts a destructive effect on the whole system of international relations".

Without setting out specific action against Nato countries for supporting deployment of new US missiles in Europe, a Pravda article released in advance by Tass criticized Europeans for backing Washington at the Nato foreign ministers' meeting, which had just ended in Brussels.

The article made no reference to the allies' declaration appealing for dialogue between Nato and the Warsaw Pact. But its tone reaffirmed that the Soviet Union is unlikely to change its stand on the missiles and on relations with the US and thus move soon to improve East-West relations.

The article primarily attacked what it called the screen of "Atlantic solidarity" set forth at the meeting.

It said "atlantic solidarity" had never existed and cited European protests against the missiles as an example.

Nato's position, page 6



To the rescue: Helicopters waiting to winch passengers from the Antrim Princess (top) and unloading some of them at Larne, co Antrim, (above).

New rift with US denied by Thatcher

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, yesterday said relations between Britain and America were in good heart, as she and her ministers moved swiftly to counter suggestions of a fresh rift over the re-certification of Argentina as a potential buyer of US arms.

As ministers continued to stress that the American decision had not been sprung on them and that there had been proper consultation, MPs detected in a Commons statement by Mr Raymond Whitney, the Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office, the clearest signs so far of the Government's desire to establish better relations with the new Argentine government, whose president, Señor Raul Alfonsín, will be inaugurated today.

Several times during exchanges on his statement, for whose moderate tone he was praised by the Opposition, Mr Whitney said the Government was looking for a "normalization" of relations with Argentina.

After the damage caused by the American invasion of Grenada and its recent actions in Lebanon, Mrs Thatcher had been anxious to avoid suggestions of a further split over the arms decision, which had been expected and which she had reluctantly accepted.

friendship, always with understanding. That is the way it is between Britain and the US, and that is the way it will always be," she said.

It was again stressed in Whitehall that Mrs Thatcher drew a distinction between the certification of arms sales as a matter of law because of progress in Argentina on human rights, and the actual sale of weapons which could be used against the Falklands.

She welcomed American assurances. She would have preferred it if certification had not taken place, but she understood the reasons for it, it was said.

Mr Whitney stressed that the Government was looking for a formal declaration from Argentina that hostilities are at an end.

Helicopters rescue 153 people as gale lashes ships

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Eight helicopters airlifted 153 passengers and crew to safety yesterday in two sea rescues during gales off the coast of Northern Ireland.

No one was injured during the rescue by Wessex and Sea King helicopters from the Sealink Larne to Stranraer ferry the Antrim Princess and a Royal Navy patrol vessel, which were drifting towards rocks and cliffs.

Squadron Leader Alec Smeddon, who coordinated both operations, which included an RAF Nimrod and other vessels, said that the rescue had been hazardous and difficult because of high winds and heavy seas. The helicopters had been unable to land on the ferry's rolling decks.

The helicopter winched passengers up from the deck in pairs, but it took an hour to lift everyone from the stricken ferry which was drifting after a fire broke out in her engine room 20 minutes out of Larne harbour.

Earlier, the four RAF helicopters airlifted 24 sailors from the Royal Navy patrol boat Vigilant as she drifted to within half a mile of the coast of co Down after engine failure.

Two ropes thrown by the Douglashead lifeboat snapped as the boat lying off its anchor dragged towards the coast.

Many of the passengers were young teenagers on a trip to Edinburgh organized by the Belfast Telegraph newspaper to see the rock group Police.

Others were families travelling to Scotland and England to spend Christmas with relatives. They included soldiers returning from duty in the Province.

Ian McCloy, aged 14, from Belfast, who was travelling with his 22-year-old sister to visit a brother in Stirling, said: "The boat was rolling all over the place and a lot of people were being seasick in the storm. I was quite frightened about what might happen."

Elderly people, women and children were winched to safety first by helicopters scrambled from Prestwick and Aldergrove. All passengers and crew were given a check up in hospital at Larne.

An 13,000-tonne oil rig broke from its moorings in Holyhead Harbour, Anglesey, North Wales, yesterday during a force nine gale (the Press Association reports).

Sovereign Explorer, was in Holyhead for painting after being towed from the Cammell Laird shipyard in Birkenhead on Tuesday.

South Africa non-stop!

one take-off
one landing
one airline.



Only South African Airways flies non-stop to South Africa - and non-stop back. Now we've introduced more non-stop services than ever - 5 a week from Heathrow and 3 returning.

Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday our luxurious new 747 SUDs, the most sophisticated version of the big jets, take off for the only non-stop service to Johannesburg, returning non-stop on Mondays, Fridays and Sundays. And only SAA flies non-stop to Cape Town, on Saturdays. With SAA's famed in-flight hospitality all the way, ten flights every week to sunny South Africa.

For full details of our regular direct flights to and from Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban, and our unique services throughout South Africa, please contact your Travel Agent or SAA at 251 Regent Street, London W1R 9ND. Tel: 01-734 9841. Or at Waterloo Street, Birmingham. Tel: 021-643 9605. Peter Street, Manchester. Tel: 061-834 4436. Hope Street, Glasgow. Tel: 041-221 2952.

SAA SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS - SHARE OUR WORLD!

A TV victory - and a snub by Heseltine

By David Hewson

Mr Michael Heseltine ended his week-long battle with ITV over the film The Day After with one immediate victory and a damaging breach with the Independent Broadcasting Authority yesterday.

Yorkshire Television reluctantly gave way to the Secretary of State for Defence who had demanded to be interviewed separately at the beginning of a discussion programme which follows tonight's showing of the film.

Mr Heseltine, however, also decided to cancel an appearance on TV-am tomorrow after the breakfast station, on the direct suggestion of the IBA, decided his appearance with a separate broadcast by Monsignor Bruce Kent, the general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

The IBA confirmed last night that it had given the advice, although it is understood that TV-am was happy for Mr Heseltine to be interviewed by David Frost without any other



Mr Heseltine: Granted separate interview

given eight minutes in the programme, and Mr Heseltine a 25-minute interview.

YTV announced yesterday that it had conceded to Mr Heseltine's demand for a separate interview with Robert Kee immediately after tonight's film, a concession which displeased some of the company's production staff. The Secretary of State will be interviewed in

Yorkshire has agreed that the other main participants in the debate will be given the same amount of time as Mr Heseltine has for his introductory interview. A representative of the British Medical Association, Dr John Dawson, was added to the programme panel.

It is understood that both sides want the embarrassing controversy which has surrounded The Day After to die down as quickly as possible.

Conservative MPs were told yesterday to prepare themselves to counter the propaganda to which the party expects anti-nuclear campaigners to make of the showing of The Day After (Our Political Reporter writes).

Mr John Gummer, the party chairman, wrote to all MPs telling them they had a duty to win the argument and giving them a briefing document drawn up by the Conservative research department.

The message it asks Tory MPs to put across is that, provided the West maintains its nuclear forces at a level capable of deterring any possible Soviet aggression and that it continues to work for multilateral disarmament and sensible relations with the East "the nightmare represented in The Day After will remain where it belongs - in the realm of fiction."

Home News	2-3	Law Report	29
Overseas	4-6	Parliament	41
Arts	10	Belgium	18
Bridge	7	Science	10
Business	21-26	Services	10
Chess	2, 28	Sport	27-29
Crossword	10	TV & Radio	30, 31
Diary	32	Theatre	18, 19
Events	32	Weather	32
		Wills	10

'NGA's objective was to destroy Shah's business by force'

Fining the National Graphical Association £525,000 for contempt of court in the *Stockport Messenger* dispute, Mr Justice Eastham said in the High Court in Manchester that the union's principal objective was to use its muscle and try to destroy the business of the *Messenger's* owner, Mr Selim (Eddie) Shah, by force.

The fines were for two separate contempt of court when the NGA unlawfully picketed Mr Shah's printing plant at Warrington between November 22 and November 24, and between November 29 and December 1.

The judge fined the union £150,000 for the first contempt and £375,000 for the second. He told the union: "It gives courts absolutely no pleasure to inflict these fines because the funds of the union are contributed by members in small amounts, no doubt, and obviously a great many members of this trade union are perfectly law-abiding, responsible citizens."

"Their funds have been put in jeopardy because of the continued defiance by the leaders of this union to a plain order of the court which they were prepared to flout because they wanted to smash the business of this company."

"The principal objective of the defendant association was to use its muscle to try and destroy the business of the plaintiff company by force."

He said that the NGA national organizer, Mr George Jerrom, had admitted that he was taking the attitude that nothing should get into the Warrington premises and nothing should get out.

The whole tenor of the evidence shows that whether they were linking arms or tying themselves together, the so-called pickets were doing their utmost to bring Mr Shah and his company to heel by preventing vans carrying newspapers to leave the premises."

Referring to the incidents on the second week, the judge said: "Any law-abiding citizen would have been shocked that any such thing could have happened in England and should take place at the instigation of union leaders responsible to their members."

"They succeeded in drumming up a demonstration which got over 4,000 people, when inside there were only 10."

He said that NGA counsel could appeal against the fines. "If you do not appeal the fines will be paid out of the funds the sequestrators have already."

Mr Terence Rigby, for the NGA, said that the union would be asking for some sequestrated funds to be made available for pensions and sickness and unemployment benefits.

But Mr Justice Eastham said: "There is a good deal of force in what you say but how can I possibly trust the executive of this union when they use their funds totally in breach of the injunctions."

"I have not much confidence in the executive of your union honouring their word."

He reminded all sides that the terms of an injunction granted on October 14 were that the NGA, whether by itself, servants or agents or otherwise, be restrained from inducing, or attempting to induce, any of its members or any other than those employed by the plaintiff or its associated companies to refuse to do or disrupt the work in connection with its goods or service."

That covered all unlawful picketing at the Warrington plant, the judge said.

"It is absolutely plain that quite deliberately, and in breach of that injunction, the defendants have induced or attempted to induce enormous demonstrations outside the premises."

The judge said that when he first fined the union £50,000 he had given a warning that if it continued to defy the law it could expect "ever-increasing fines mounting in severity."

He had originally declined to impose a sequestration because he wanted the NGA officers to "reflect as to whether they really did wish to defy the law to this point."

He said that the union continued to defy the law and was fined a further £100,000. "I again warned them that if they continued to defy the law they could expect fines of increased severity."

"In deciding what I should do I tried and I hope successfully, to put out of my mind what I personally saw on television."

Mr Justice Eastham said the union had made an offer of recognition for the union with the establishment of a new company that would, over a period of time, have given the NGA a closed shop. That appears to have been unacceptable to the union which claims that its concessions of a post-entry, instead of pre-entry closed shop was not picked up by Mr Shah.

Acas officials detected a union fee that yielding to Mr Shah on the closed shop issue could mean "an opening of the floodgates" in provincial newspapers, and in particular the booming free-sheet sector, to managements hiring non-union labour. So with the principle of the closed shop adjudged by the union too important on which to compromise further, the talks became deadlocked.

It became clear, however, that it was in both parties' interests to prolong the Acas deliberations. Mr Shah had to avoid being accused of being interested only in taking the union through the courts, while the NGA wanted a postponement of yesterday's court proceedings.

Mr Pat Lowry, the Acas chairman, and Mr Dennis Body, his chief conciliation officer, decided early yesterday that there was no point in prolonging the discussions and so issued a clear statement.

The Acas statement upset the NGA, whose officials wanted to be able to argue in court yesterday that there was still a possibility of further discussions.

The union also announced that its national council meeting today would discuss the closed shop principle raised during the talks.

The National Coal Board is to close two pits in Leicestershire and Derbyshire, next Friday, and a third will end production in seven weeks. About 300 men remain at the Salsburgh colliery at Coalville, Leicestershire which is closing due to coal exhaustion. The board said yesterday: "There are no compulsory redundancies. The men are either taking voluntary retirement or are transferring to pits in Leicestershire, South Derbyshire or Warwickshire."

In Derbyshire, Pleasley colliery's remaining coal will be worked from Shirebrook colliery near by.

Some of the 360 men are being transferred to Shirebrook and to other pits in the area. The Pleasley site will eventually be levelled.

The Desford colliery, Leicestershire, is due to close by February 10.

Mr Shah said at the end of the Acas meetings yesterday that he had made an offer of recognition for the union with the establishment of a new company that would, over a period of time, have given the NGA a closed shop. That appears to have been unacceptable to the union which claims that its concessions of a post-entry, instead of pre-entry closed shop was not picked up by Mr Shah.

Acas officials detected a union fee that yielding to Mr Shah on the closed shop issue could mean "an opening of the floodgates" in provincial newspapers, and in particular the booming free-sheet sector, to managements hiring non-union labour. So with the principle of the closed shop adjudged by the union too important on which to compromise further, the talks became deadlocked.

It became clear, however, that it was in both parties' interests to prolong the Acas deliberations. Mr Shah had to avoid being accused of being interested only in taking the union through the courts, while the NGA wanted a postponement of yesterday's court proceedings.

Mr Pat Lowry, the Acas chairman, and Mr Dennis Body, his chief conciliation officer, decided early yesterday that there was no point in prolonging the discussions and so issued a clear statement.

The Acas statement upset the NGA, whose officials wanted to be able to argue in court yesterday that there was still a possibility of further discussions.

The union also announced that its national council meeting today would discuss the closed shop principle raised during the talks.

The National Coal Board is to close two pits in Leicestershire and Derbyshire, next Friday, and a third will end production in seven weeks. About 300 men remain at the Salsburgh colliery at Coalville, Leicestershire which is closing due to coal exhaustion. The board said yesterday: "There are no compulsory redundancies. The men are either taking voluntary retirement or are transferring to pits in Leicestershire, South Derbyshire or Warwickshire."

In Derbyshire, Pleasley colliery's remaining coal will be worked from Shirebrook colliery near by.

Some of the 360 men are being transferred to Shirebrook and to other pits in the area. The Pleasley site will eventually be levelled.

The Desford colliery, Leicestershire, is due to close by February 10.

Mr Shah said at the end of the Acas meetings yesterday that he had made an offer of recognition for the union with the establishment of a new company that would, over a period of time, have given the NGA a closed shop. That appears to have been unacceptable to the union which claims that its concessions of a post-entry, instead of pre-entry closed shop was not picked up by Mr Shah.

Acas officials detected a union fee that yielding to Mr Shah on the closed shop issue could mean "an opening of the floodgates" in provincial newspapers, and in particular the booming free-sheet sector, to managements hiring non-union labour. So with the principle of the closed shop adjudged by the union too important on which to compromise further, the talks became deadlocked.

It became clear, however, that it was in both parties' interests to prolong the Acas deliberations. Mr Shah had to avoid being accused of being interested only in taking the union through the courts, while the NGA wanted a postponement of yesterday's court proceedings.

Mr Pat Lowry, the Acas chairman, and Mr Dennis Body, his chief conciliation officer, decided early yesterday that there was no point in prolonging the discussions and so issued a clear statement.

The Acas statement upset the NGA, whose officials wanted to be able to argue in court yesterday that there was still a possibility of further discussions.

The union also announced that its national council meeting today would discuss the closed shop principle raised during the talks.

Mr Shah said at the end of the Acas meetings yesterday that he had made an offer of recognition for the union with the establishment of a new company that would, over a period of time, have given the NGA a closed shop. That appears to have been unacceptable to the union which claims that its concessions of a post-entry, instead of pre-entry closed shop was not picked up by Mr Shah.

Acas officials detected a union fee that yielding to Mr Shah on the closed shop issue could mean "an opening of the floodgates" in provincial newspapers, and in particular the booming free-sheet sector, to managements hiring non-union labour. So with the principle of the closed shop adjudged by the union too important on which to compromise further, the talks became deadlocked.

It became clear, however, that it was in both parties' interests to prolong the Acas deliberations. Mr Shah had to avoid being accused of being interested only in taking the union through the courts, while the NGA wanted a postponement of yesterday's court proceedings.

Mr Pat Lowry, the Acas chairman, and Mr Dennis Body, his chief conciliation officer, decided early yesterday that there was no point in prolonging the discussions and so issued a clear statement.

The Acas statement upset the NGA, whose officials wanted to be able to argue in court yesterday that there was still a possibility of further discussions.

The union also announced that its national council meeting today would discuss the closed shop principle raised during the talks.

The National Coal Board is to close two pits in Leicestershire and Derbyshire, next Friday, and a third will end production in seven weeks. About 300 men remain at the Salsburgh colliery at Coalville, Leicestershire which is closing due to coal exhaustion. The board said yesterday: "There are no compulsory redundancies. The men are either taking voluntary retirement or are transferring to pits in Leicestershire, South Derbyshire or Warwickshire."

In Derbyshire, Pleasley colliery's remaining coal will be worked from Shirebrook colliery near by.

Some of the 360 men are being transferred to Shirebrook and to other pits in the area. The Pleasley site will eventually be levelled.

The Desford colliery, Leicestershire, is due to close by February 10.

Mr Shah said at the end of the Acas meetings yesterday that he had made an offer of recognition for the union with the establishment of a new company that would, over a period of time, have given the NGA a closed shop. That appears to have been unacceptable to the union which claims that its concessions of a post-entry, instead of pre-entry closed shop was not picked up by Mr Shah.

Acas officials detected a union fee that yielding to Mr Shah on the closed shop issue could mean "an opening of the floodgates" in provincial newspapers, and in particular the booming free-sheet sector, to managements hiring non-union labour. So with the principle of the closed shop adjudged by the union too important on which to compromise further, the talks became deadlocked.

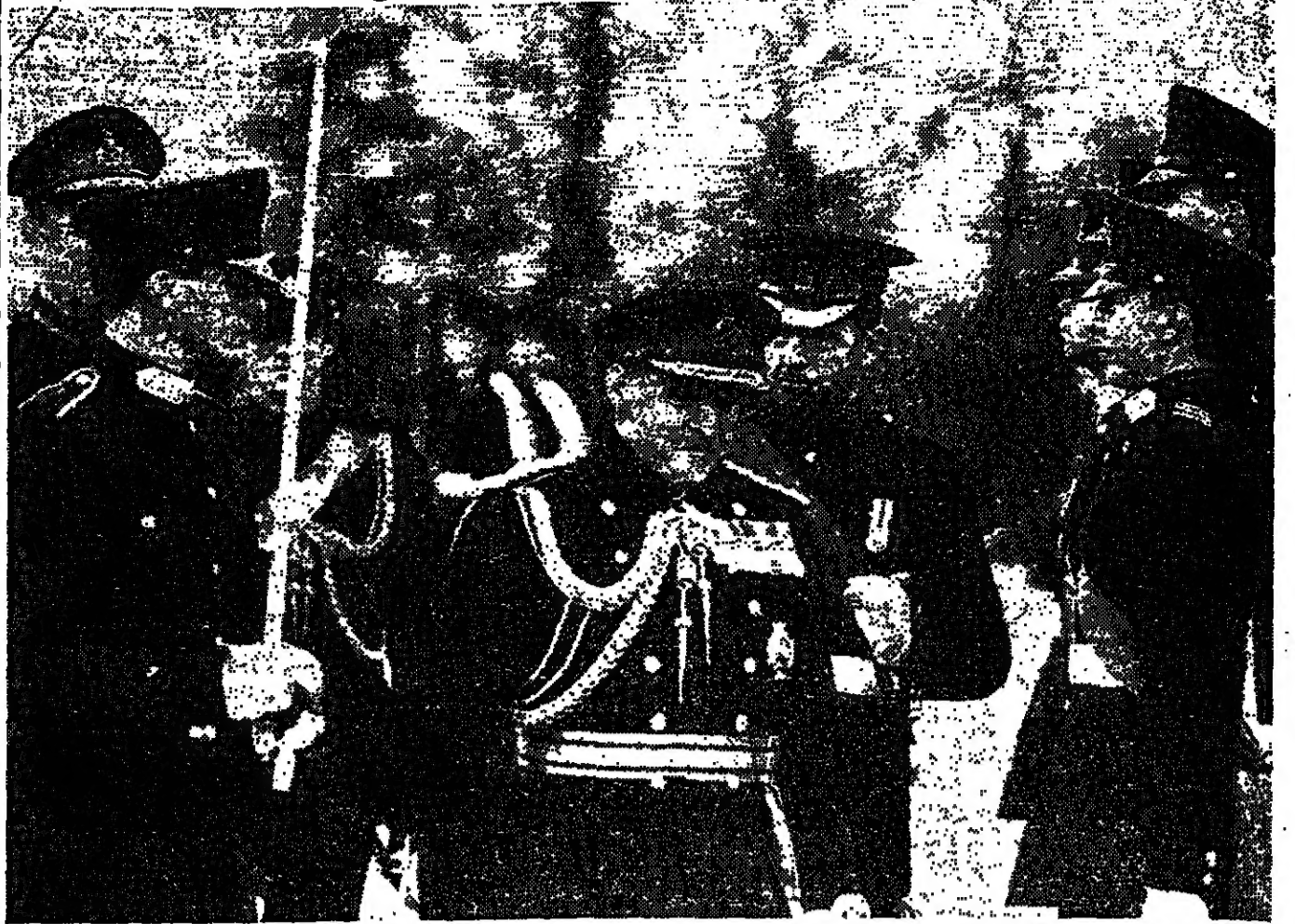
It became clear, however, that it was in both parties' interests to prolong the Acas deliberations. Mr Shah had to avoid being accused of being interested only in taking the union through the courts, while the NGA wanted a postponement of yesterday's court proceedings.

Mr Pat Lowry, the Acas chairman, and Mr Dennis Body, his chief conciliation officer, decided early yesterday that there was no point in prolonging the discussions and so issued a clear statement.

The Acas statement upset the NGA, whose officials wanted to be able to argue in court yesterday that there was still a possibility of further discussions.

The union also announced that its national council meeting today would discuss the closed shop principle raised during the talks.

Parading at Sandhurst for the last time



Military inspection: General Sir Frank Kitson, Commander in Chief United Kingdom Land Forces, reviewing the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst yesterday. The Sword of Honour was awarded to Junior Under Officer Richard Mitchell. (Photograph Harry Kerr)

Censorship 'necessary' in full war

By Peter Hennessy

The Beach committee on censorship in war has concluded that a voluntary system is the best solution for a conflict such as that fought in the Falklands. But complete censorship of press and broadcasting would be necessary and justified in a full-scale war, it says.

The committee, known officially as the Study Group on Censorship, was established by the Ministry of Defence under the chairmanship of General Sir Hugh Beach, former Master of the Ordnance, in the aftermath of the conflict in the South Atlantic.

It had no illusions about the difficulty of recreating in future a censorship system as tight and as effective as that operated by the Ministry of Information and the service departments in the Second World War.

New technologies, such as electronic news-gathering, meant that total control would be impossible. Whitehall's best hope, the committee reckoned, was to try in advance to get an agreement on censorship with the newspaper and broadcasting organizations.

For small conflicts, fully fledged censorship is deemed impossible and undesirable. The existing, voluntary D-notice system was the best way of handling the media.

The report of the Beach committee whose membership included Mr David Holmes, former political editor of the BBC, and Mr Harry Chapman, Plancher, former defence correspondent of the *Daily Express*, is expected to be published next week.

Coal board announces 3 pit closures

The National Coal Board is to close two pits in Leicestershire and Derbyshire, next Friday, and a third will end production in seven weeks. About 300 men remain at the Salsburgh colliery at Coalville, Leicestershire which is closing due to coal exhaustion. The board said yesterday: "There are no compulsory redundancies. The men are either taking voluntary retirement or are transferring to pits in Leicestershire, South Derbyshire or Warwickshire."

In Derbyshire, Pleasley colliery's remaining coal will be worked from Shirebrook colliery near by.

Some of the 360 men are being transferred to Shirebrook and to other pits in the area. The Pleasley site will eventually be levelled.

The Desford colliery, Leicestershire, is due to close by February 10.

2,000 attend funeral of IRA victim

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The murder of the Official Unionist politician, Mr Edgar Graham, was described as an "obscenity in the face of God" by the Presbyterian minister who baptized him and yesterday conducted his funeral service at Randalstown, co Antrim.

Two thousand mourners attended the service for Mr Graham, aged 29, who was shot dead by the Provisional IRA. Among those attending were Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and leading members of all political parties in Ulster except Provisional Sinn Féin.

Leading judicial and academic figures were also among the mourners at the Old Congregation Presbyterian Church where Mr Graham, a law lecturer, had worshipped as a boy and where seven members of his family still sing in the choir.

The family had requested the minimum of publicity because that had been Mr Graham's wish during discussions he had had about funeral arrangements with his father some months ago.

The Rev Alan McAloney, minister of the church, said Mr Graham had been seen as an outstanding potential leader but "this was a hope not to be fulfilled" and a life that had so much to offer to the country had been given so little time.

Mr Graham had not been afraid to speak the truth as he saw it "despite the risks he knew he was running and those risks were considerable. He condemned violence in every form and it was that shameful violence that took his life. He has paid a heavy price for his honesty, open mindedness, fairness and fearlessness."

The minister told the dead man's grieving mother, father and sister that there were no words left to describe the feelings of revulsion at his savage murder but he warned that the greatest danger was that people would allow themselves to be swept by a wave of despair. It was too easy to lose heart and say that the God-fearing people of Ulster had lost their cause.

But it was the Christian faith which would enable people to hold their heads up

Guideline on hospitality for doctors

By Nicholas Timmins

Doctors who want to accept drug company-financed visits to conferences will need permission from their employing authority in future, under proposals issued yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services.

The draft guidelines on accepting funding, gifts and hospitality from drug companies and other national health service suppliers and contractors apply to all NHS staff.

They follow what the Department of Health describes as an increase in promotional and other offers to NHS staff in recent years and "new forms of inducement."

The authorities should be satisfied that any trip for which subsidized travel or accommodation is offered is confined to bona fide medical, educational, scientific or technical purposes, the guidance says. A "reasonable limit" should be put on recreation time, and funding should be limited to the participant himself.

Air crash inquiry launched

By David Cross

Aviation crash experts from the Ministry of Transport were set last night to begin investigating the disappearance of an executive jet into the sea with 10 people on board on Thursday night.

The two-man crew and eight passengers, including two senior air force officers, one of them French, as well as two small children, four bodies have been found; the other six are missing presumed dead.

The plane, a Cessna Conquest, which belonged to Mr Michael Carlton, a finance and property millionaire, was last seen flying at 400ft on radar screens about 10 miles south-west of Stornoway in the Hebrides at 5.46p on Thursday night. The Ministry said yesterday that no distress signal had been received from the aircraft during its flight from Paris via Liverpool.

Mr Carlton said yesterday that the weather had been good. Passengers on the two aircraft were on their way to a weekend of pheasant shooting at the 12,300 acre estate owned by Mr Carlton at Garrynahine in the west of the Isle of Lewis.

The bodies recovered include that of Mrs Jill Parker, the wife of Air Commodore John Parker, from Rushington, Lincolnshire, director of the Royal Air Force's quartering department and a former air attaché to the British Embassy in Paris.

Also among the passengers were General Henri Gimbart, aged 53 of the French Air Force, his wife, and Mr and Mrs John Wallace and their two children, Clare, aged three, and Jonathan, aged four months, from Willaston in Cheshire.

The aircraft was flown by Captain Stuart Patterson, from Biggin Hill in Kent, and copiloted by Mr Tim Ridgway.



General Henri Gimbart (left) and Air Commodore John Parker (right), victims of the air crash and Mr Michael Carlton (centre).

ment and a former air attaché to the British Embassy in Paris.

Also among the passengers were General Henri Gimbart, aged 53 of the French Air Force, his wife, and Mr and Mrs John Wallace and their two children, Clare, aged three, and Jonathan, aged four months, from Willaston in Cheshire.

The aircraft was flown by Captain Stuart Patterson, from Biggin Hill in Kent, and copiloted by Mr Tim Ridgway.

Test tube twins were born in Glasgow yesterday, a few days after the arrival of Scotland's first test-tube baby.

The twin boys were said to be "doing fine" at Stobhill General Hospital, Glasgow. Their mother, Mrs Muriel Kerr, aged 38, was said to be well.

The babies were born six weeks premature by Caesarian section. One weighed around 4½ lb, the other just under 4 lb.

Earlier yesterday it was announced that a 7 lb 10 oz baby girl was born at the Simpson Memorial Hospital in Edinburgh a few days ago. She was the first test-tube baby conceived and born in Scotland.

Ribli, the Hungarian grandmaster, is perilously near to losing the match, which stands at 5-3 in Smyslov's favour with the Russian needing only 1½ more points to win.

Each player is entitled to take one time-out and Ribli is naturally seeking a pause to recover from a number of heavy defeats.

The game is due to be played next Sunday.

Overseas selling prices: Australia \$2.50, Belgium 2.50, Canada 2.50, Denmark 2.50, France 2.50, Germany 2.50, Greece 2.50, Hong Kong 2.50, India 2.50, Japan 2.50, Korea 2.50, Malaysia 2.50, New Zealand 2.50, Norway 2.50, Pakistan 2.50, Singapore 2.50, South Africa 2.50, Sweden 2.50, Switzerland 2.50, Taiwan 2.50, Thailand 2.50, Turkey 2.50, USA 2.50, West Germany 2.50, Yugoslavia 2.50.

Courts face flood of injunctions

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

A rash of injunctions similar to those brought against the National Graphical Association by Mr Selim (Eddie) Shah, could flood the courts if the union seeks to spread the *Stockport Messenger* dispute.

Such actions would be in addition to any further proceedings in the High Court in Manchester at the instigation of Mr Shah. An emergency meeting of the union's national council today will tell that the union could be fined out of existence or its leaders imprisoned.

The last option was being ruled out by most employment law specialists last night. They pointed to the political implications of creating a repeat of the "Pentonville Five" case.

Five dockers were committed to prison in July, 1972, by the National Industrial Relations Court for contempt of an order prohibiting "blacking" of a cold storage depot in east London. They were released after the intervention of the Official Solicitor.

Mr Joe Wade, the NGA's general secretary, has said that he does not believe the Government wants to see the imprisonment of the "NGA 45" - a reference to the national council of 40 and top officials.

There is no clearly defined path for future action by the courts because the union is being dealt with by Mr Justice Eastham under the contempt laws which provide the judge with complete freedom of action. However, any further union appearances have to be on the basis of a complaint from Mr Shah.

The vehicle has mainly been Mr James Prior's Employment Act, 1980, which made unlawful secondary industrial action and

Mr Norman Tebbit's Employment Act, 1982, has also been brought into play. That Act laid union funds open to civil claim for damages where a union was adjudged to have lost immunity from action because of acting outside the 1980 Act.

But the fines have been imposed on the union under the contempt laws for its defiance of the main injunction.

Mr Justice Eastham appears to be roughly doubling the fine on the union at each appearance for contempt of court. It is believed that this could continue until the sequestrators have little or none of the union's £11m assets left to hand over to the court.

That would lead to the union going out of existence and it could no longer be said to be in contempt of court. But the legal implications for the NGA are wider.

The union has been served with writs seeking damages totalling £3m by 12 national newspapers.

More disruption of Fleet Street would almost certainly persuade most of the national newspaper proprietors to seek to have the union held in contempt for breaching injunctions restraining it from taking action in Fleet Street as part of the *Stockport Messenger* dispute.

Times Newspapers Ltd (publishers of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*) and News Group Newspapers Ltd (publishers of *The Sun* and *The News of the World*) were last night granted similar injunctions against the NGA. The orders were made by Mr Justice Cantley in the High Court in London, and brought the companies into line with other Fleet Street newspapers.

whatsoever. A strike could have a serious effect on our members who are at present trading unsatisfactorily.

"Undoubtedly if the NGA action goes ahead it will do damage. We hope that the union will abide by the national agreements we have negotiated."

Local weekly and daily newspapers have faced increased competition for a share of the advertising cake.

The NGA dispute has also temporarily halted meetings on

Acas talks ended in arena of mistrust

By Our Labour Correspondent

More than 32 hours of talks at the offices of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) ended early yesterday with The National Graphical Association and Mr Selim (Eddie) Shah as far apart as when they started four days earlier.

It was one of the more unusual conciliations that Acas has had to perform, in the words of one official "not one of our happiest experiences", because neither side holds any trust for the other. The result was that out of the hours they spent in the service's London offices, they met face to face for less than an hour in total.

The deep mistrust shared for each other by Mr Shah and the NGA resulted in much of the proceedings being conducted through written notes being carried between meeting rooms by Acas officials. In the end there was agreement on one thing, - that a settlement had foundered on the issue of principle of the closed shop.

Although union negotiators expressed anger at Mr Shah's refusal to renegotiate the six typewriters he dismissed in July, the main sticking point was the union's insistence that there should be a post-entry closed shop covering production staff at The Messenger Group of Newspapers' premises at Bury and Warrington.

Union officials' arguments had been that Mr Shah had conceded the principle of a post-entry closed shop during the first round of Acas talks in London on November 28. Mr Shah countered that his offer was withdrawn because the violent picketing of last week had persuaded his employees that they did not now want a closed shop, or to belong to the union.

new technology, on which it was hoped to reach agreement by the end of next year.

A society-NGA meeting called for November 22 had to be abandoned and will now be difficult to rearrange.

● A hard-hitting article about management-union relations in the newspaper industry was omitted from last Sunday's edition of *The Observer* newspaper because Mr Donald Treloar, the editor, agreed with managerial, editorial and printing staff that it was the wrong time to use it.

STOP PRESS.
GULF AIR ARE ADDING SPECIAL HOLIDAY FLIGHTS TO THEIR SCHEDULE ON DECEMBER 14 AND DECEMBER 21. SO NOW WE HAVE PLENTY OF SPACE AVAILABLE. GET BACK TO THE GULF IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAY. BOOK NOW.

طيران الخليج
GULF AIR
Spread your wings



هكذا من الأصل

Social class not spending determines exam results, survey shows

By Phillip Venning

Social class differences rather than spending on secondary schools are the main reason for the wide variations in examination results of the 96 English education authorities, according to an "experimental" report published yesterday by the Department of Education and Science.

The report shows that between two-thirds and three-quarters of the real variations can be explained by social composition. The proportion of middle-class parents was particularly significant in accounting for better A-level results.

But the report says examination results are not wholly suitable measures of performance of all secondary pupils, and they are not a measurement of the school's performance.

In the London borough of Newham, a dockland area, which spends £555 per pupil, 24.7 per cent of school-leavers had no examination passes. Statisticians calculated the figure should have been 23.5 per cent.

But in the Conservative-controlled London borough of Sutton, which has grammar schools and which spent £215.3 a head, 7.3 per cent of school-leavers had no passes, instead of the estimated 9.8 per cent.

Although the report admits that its results have to be treated carefully because of difficulties with figures and methods it does show that statistically some local authorities do better and some worse than might be expected after allowance is made for their special advantages and disadvantages.

The Inner London Education Authority, Britain's highest-spending local authority, does less well: just over 40 per cent of pupils passed one or more higher grade O level or CSE compared with 45 per cent that the calculations indicate.

Other authorities below par include Knowsley and Gateshead, while those doing better include Calderdale, Barnet, Harrow, Wigan, North Tyneside, Sunderland, Buckinghamshire and Northumberland.

The figures were reached by working out the importance of factors that could affect examination results.

Those included: proportion of children from different social backgrounds; non-white, receiving free school meals; from one-parent or large families or in poor housing; unemployment; educational spending and population density.

The report shows statistically

that social class is overwhelmingly significant and virtually all the other factors negligible.

These findings will fuel the heated debate about examination results started earlier this year by the National Council for Educational Standards. Its report was criticized by DES statisticians for not taking sufficient account of some of the wider measures of social disadvantage - shown by this new document to be unimportant.

But the DES report is full of statistical caveats. The figures on social class are 12 years old; those on examination results and on spending have weaknesses in the way they were collected.

The Department admits they are faulty and it is trying to improve them.

Particularly suspect, the report says, are its findings suggesting that in some highly-deprived local authorities extra educational spending actually produced worse results.

Another possible factor might be the proportion of pupils in independent schools, the report says.

Statistical Bulletin 16/83 Schools Standards and Spending (DES statistics branch).

Mock-Tudor house curb by planners

Council planners have banned the building of any more mock-Tudor houses in the rural commuter area to the north-west of Birmingham-Wolverhampton and the Black Country.

Instead, the planners on South Staffordshire council are challenging architects to produce twentieth century houses to blend with the old rural surroundings of villages, many of which have real half-timbered Tudor buildings.

Mr John Perry, the council's planning chief, said yesterday: "You do not get good design and character in a house by nailing planks of wood to the walls. It does not go well with the real thing. We think that it is not beyond the wit of modern architects to come out with designs in brick or in the materials of our time which will blend with the surroundings."

The council's ban has come to light in Peakridge, a village in Staffordshire, where timber-framed, Queen Anne and Georgian houses are preserved. Planning permission has been refused for two expensive mock-Tudor houses and the planning committee is insisting that plans be resubmitted showing houses in ordinary brick.

Mr John Perry said that although his committee did not operate a ban as a matter of policy, the planning department had set its face against mock Tudor houses.

Suzuki gambles on 'world car'

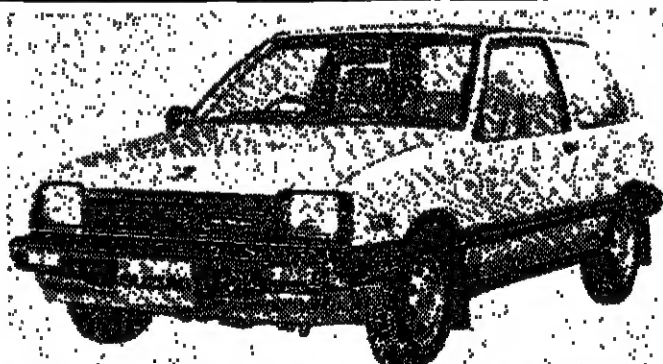
By Clifford Webb
Motoring Correspondent

Suzuki Japan, one of the world's largest motor cycle manufacturers, has joined forces with General Motors of the United States in a £200m gamble to produce a new "world car" for the man of the street.

The SA 310 Super Mini will arrive in Britain in two months. A four-seater car, its extreme lightness and three cylinder, one litre aluminium engine are said to give 66 miles a gallon at a steady 56 mph and a top speed of about 90 mph and is expected to sell for a little under £4,000.

It is not generally appreciated that, in addition to its motor cycles, Suzuki has been producing ultra-small cars in large numbers for nearly 30 years.

It was this "micro car"



Car for the masses: The Suzuki SA310GL

expertise which persuaded GM to take a 5 per cent stake in Suzuki as the preliminary to the development of a small car for the masses which would sell equally well in the developed and under-developed areas of the world. At the moment, it is being built only in Japan.

But the project has run into trouble already. The original plan was to ship 7,000 a month for sale by GM in the United States. However, up to now Suzuki has not sold cars there and, under a recently agreed quota for Japanese exports, it does not have an allocation.



Respecting tradition: A Norwegian girls' choir singing carols after the thirty-seventh lighting up ceremony of the Norwegian Christmas tree erected in Trafalgar Square.

French milk 'unfit for drinking'

The first consignment of UHT milk from France into Britain has been labelled unfit for human consumption by port authorities.

About 43,000 cartons arrived from France on December 1 and underwent tests at New Haven. Health inspectors said yesterday that the milk was substandard and French Dairy Farmers, the company importing it, would be prosecuted if any was sold.

The company had intended to sell the milk, fresh for six months, at four pence less a pint than British long-life milk and seven pence less than British farm milk.

It is now impounded at the company's Salisbury Depot. Mr Michael Charry, the firm's managing director, has given a written undertaking that no milk will be sold.

Under the new guidance transquillizers should "as a general principle" be used in secure units only on clinical and therapeutic grounds.

They should be used only where other approaches have failed and a child is "at imminent risk of serious self-harm or harming others", or where the care and medical staff jointly believe that "the likelihood of this situation arising is such as to justify medication".

Clampdown on use of CB

Holders of the £10 citizens band radio licence will have to be aged at least 14, as from next March, according to changes announced in a Commons written reply yesterday by Mr Alexander Fletcher, an Under Secretary at the Department of Trade and Industry.

Children under 14 will be able to use CB only under supervision. Other changes include a ban on playing music and retransmitting radio and television broadcast material.

Kidnap case

William Kelly, aged 40, a painter from Tralee, co Kerry, accused in connexion with the kidnapping of the chain store executive, Mr Don Tidey, more than two weeks ago was granted bail in the High Court in Dublin yesterday.

Rapist jailed

Thomas Swaine, aged 24, of Bransome Road, Didcot, who brutally raped two women, one of them four months pregnant, was jailed for life by Oxford Crown Court yesterday.

106th birthday

Miss Louie Hemington celebrated her 106th birthday with a family party at her home in Kirtan, near Boston, Lincolnshire, yesterday.

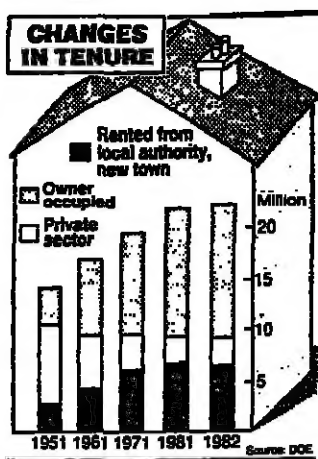
Social trends: 3

Dramatic rise in owner-occupation

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

The dramatic change in household tenure in the past 30 years is from private tenancy to owner-occupation according to figures in the latest *Social Trends*.

In 1951 only 30 per cent of all homes in the United Kingdom were owner-occupied, but by 1982, the figure had increased to 59 per cent. During the same period the proportion of homes rented from private owners reduced from 52 per cent in 1951 to 12 per cent in 1982.



Homes rented from local authorities or new towns increased from 18 per cent in 1951 to 29 per cent in 1982. The pattern of tenure is not exactly the same throughout the UK. In Scotland, for example, 53 per cent were local authority or new town homes compared with 37 per cent in owner-occupation in 1982.

The research also discloses a different pattern of tenure of households headed by married men compared with other households. Some 63 per cent of married male householders owned their homes outright or with a mortgage of loan in 1982. In contrast, about 67 per cent of households headed by divorced or separated women were in rented accommodation.

Overall the proportions of single householders in the owner-occupied and rented sectors were similar for men and women, although proportionately more of the women were outright owners and local authority tenants. Nearly two-thirds of heads of households aged between 25 and 39 were owner-occupiers, compared with just under a half of those aged 60 or more.

Since the 1960s there has been a marked change in the shares of the public and private sectors in the total numbers of homes newly constructed in the UK. During the 1960s about 41 per cent were local authority

dwellings, 5 per cent privately built.

In 1979 these proportions had changed to 32 per cent for local authority, 11 per cent for other public sector and 57 per cent privately built. The change has continued at a greater pace, and in 1982 more than 70 per cent were privately built, with 20 per cent built by local authorities and 9 per cent by other public sector bodies.

The total stock of dwellings in the UK increased by 2.65 million (14 per cent) between 1970 and 1982, after an increase of about 2.5 million between 1960 and 1970. Although the dwelling stock has been increasing, the annual rate of new construction fell by 46 per cent between 1976 and 1982, from 325,000 to 177,000. The drop was largely because of the decline in the public sector, where 53,000 new dwellings were completed in 1982; fewer than one third of the total in 1976.

In the private sector, the number completed fell by a quarter between 1976 and 1981 but increased again by 7 per cent from 116,000 in 1981 to 124,000 in 1982.

Social Trends 14, Central Statistical Office (Stationery, £19.95)
Monday: Crime

Autumn start likely for Lords TV experiment

The experiment in televising the proceedings of the Lords is likely to take place next autumn. A committee of five peers and one barrister will begin its examination early in the new year of the practicalities of allowing in cameras, after the decisive vote in favour of the principle on Thursday night.

The Lords sound broadcasting committee, which is appointed at the start of each parliamentary session, meets irregularly.

Its last inquiry, in March this year, was over the changed format of the BBC Radio programme *Yesterday in Parliament*.

Jenkin defends discharge into sea at Sellafield

By Ronald Faux
Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday that there was no case for stopping the discharge of nuclear waste into the Irish Sea from the British Nuclear Fuels plant at Sellafield formerly Windscale in Cumbria.

Speaking to reporters in Workington at the opening to an enterprise zone - he denied that there had been any complacency.

The escape of solvent down the pipeline from Sellafield is being investigated. Mr Jenkin said he hoped a report would be published soon.

GREEN THUMB GLOVES A GIFT FOR EVERY GARDENER.



Synchemicals range of Green Thumb gloves makes an ideal present for every gardener. They are good looking, hardwearing and above all practical, with a range of styles and sizes for men and women.

Put Green Thumb gloves at the top of your shopping list this Christmas.

Synchemicals Limited, 44 Grange Walk, London SE1 3EN Telephone 01-232 1225

Ban warning to football club over police bill

Sheffield United football club was told yesterday that the public could be banned from its terraces unless a dispute over a £51,000 bill for policing last season.

The warning to the Third Division club was given by Mr George Moores, chairman of South Yorkshire County Council's police committee.

The club is claiming there is no contract with the police and that they have no right to enter their Bramall Lane ground unless invited.

"Banning the public would be the ultimate penalty, but it is United's responsibility."

"If they say they don't want police in the ground action would be taken. It is the clear duty of the chief constable to ensure the safety of the public."

"If they tried to play without police, I cannot see the chief constable doing anything other

than applying for an order from the magistrates to have the public banned."

Mr Moores said: "We have a duty to recover the debt. It is ratepayers' money and if it is not recovered we can be surcharged."

The move comes after meetings between the council and South Yorkshire's football league clubs when police charges were reduced and clubs were told they could pay by instalments.

No one was available for comment at Bramall Lane yesterday.

Last charge

An escaped billy-goat which was charging at cars on a main road near Newark, Nottinghamshire, was shot with tranquilizer darts yesterday.

ADVERTISEMENT

Lebrun, Master Vintner of Noilly Prat, has been put under a spell by the hoodlum R. Herring.

R.H.: "You can make me a rich man Lebrun! How can Noilly Prat taste rounded, ... yet dry?"

Lebrun: [French-like] "Rare plants, my liege, from 4 continents imbue its crisp white inner with a rounded herbal note..."

Hugo the Cooper [Barging in] "Did you write this Lebrun? ... 'choice Pigeon and Clairette wine drenched in Mediterranean sun for over a year one oddment of the mellow staves of their numberless casks of oak'...!!"

Hugo [cont.] "... They are not numberless Lebrun, I have to build them! ... you'll be inviting them to our Inner Sanctum next to see our secret herbs!"

R.H. [silly] "... Secret herbs?... Inner Sanctum?... Hum..."

[NEXT: Report Herring penetrates Noilly Prat's Inner Sanctum, disguised as an ethereal being]

Legend & Illustration by Augustine Non.

FRENCH DRY. DIFFERENT.

The Rumasa affair

Court backs state takeover

From Richard Wigg
Madrid

Spain's Socialist Government has won approval from the Constitutional Court for its expropriation of the country's biggest private business empire, the Rumasa group. The courts judgment was made public yesterday.

The verdict was only arrived at after Professor Manuel Garcia Pelayo, the court's President, exercised his casting vote. Six of the 12 members have filed a dissenting judgment, but have upheld the principle that it was necessary for the government to act.

The judgment emphasizes the exceptional condition and significance of the expropriation company created by Señor José María Ruiz Mateos in its justification of the Government's decree of February 23 which nationalized the group's 20 banks, sherry and wine estates, 38 hotels and extensive farmlands.



Minister and financier: Señor Boyer (left) and Señor Ruiz Mateos.

The judgment said that the case was unique and constitutional guarantees for private property had not been infringed as claimed by 54 Opposition MPs in their appeal to the court. "The expropriation measure deals with an extraordinary situation of grave consequence for the community's interests and does not correspond to a scheme of a general nature. It does not authorize fears of an extension of the technique to other situations", a crucial

passage in the judgment reads. Elsewhere, it described the expropriation as a singular act of intervention in an exceptional situation, characterized by risk and with a potential for destabilizing the country's financial system, which required urgent action by the Government.

Señor Miguel Boyer, the Economics Minister, justified the seizure at the time as being needed to stem Rumasa's mounting financial troubles. These represented, he said, the gravest bank crisis Spain had suffered. He said an audit completed last month by a team of 16 international accountancy firms had found that Rumasa's losses exceeded its assets in February by more than £1,100m.

Señor Ruiz Mateos, a financier, aged 53, who has been living in London since March, maintained, however, his group was worth more than £2,380m at the time.

The High Court in London decided to await the constitutional Court's judgment before hearing actions between the state management of Rumasa and Señor Ruiz Mateos concerning the ownership of companies in Britain and elsewhere. The court found that the decree law satisfied all the three constitutional provisions needed.

The six dissenting judges did not disagree with the majority finding of extraordinary and urgent necessity in the Rumasa case. But they argued that the use of a decree-law weakened property rights and guarantees for private property.

The court's judgment means that the Government can now go ahead in the next few months with its promised reprivatization of the various elements of the Rumasa empire. Foreign banks have already expressed interest in the group's Banco Atlántico and also in two of the leading Rioja wine firms which belonged to the group.

US cuts endanger aid fund

By Our Foreign Staff

Doubts have arisen over the future of the International Development Association, the World Bank subsidiary helping the poorest nations, after President Reagan's decision to cut America's annual contribution to \$750m (£525m), the lowest since the mid-1970s.

The association, currently meeting in Paris, provides interest-free loans with up to 50 years to repay to 120 countries, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. It depends on contributions mainly from

the industrialized countries for its capital.

The US is the largest of the 33 donor countries and has been under pressure for several weeks from other Western nations, including those of the EEC, and World Bank officials, including the president Mr A W Clausen, to increase its contribution.

However, an Administration official said that in determining the amount of America's contribution the President had accepted the "overwhelming

consensus of his Cabinet."

One American voice against popular opinion was that of Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, who recommended that the US should put up between \$900m and \$950m.

The meeting in Paris of senior IDA officials will in theory fix the loans budget for the three years from July 1, the seventh replenishment of IDA funds. Negotiations with the other donors intended to bring the US gets its way, total funds will amount to only \$9bn

£5m settles Onassis tax dispute

From Mario Modiano
Athens

Miss Christina Onassis, the shipping heiress, ended her protracted tax dispute with the Greek authorities yesterday when her solicitors handed over a cheque for the equivalent of £5.25m, the balance of a £7.8m claim.

A tax court originally asked her to pay £19m in taxes and fines on the estate of her father, Aristotle. The tribunal rejected her defence that the Onassis property in Greece, including Olympia Airways, was rented from Panamanian companies.

Miss Onassis appealed, but a few days before the case was due to be heard she reached a settlement with the authorities.

It is understood that work will be resumed soon on construction of a model cardiovascular hospital in Athens at a cost of £27m, a gift of the Alexander Onassis Foundation.

Walesa's wife arrives in Oslo

Oslo (Reuter) - Mrs Danuta Walesa, the wife of the banned Solidarity union leader Lech Walesa, arrived here yesterday to receive the Nobel peace prize today on behalf of her husband.

Accompanied by her eldest son, Bogdan, aged 13, Mrs Walesa was greeted at Oslo airport by Mr Egil Aarvik, the chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee.

A small police detachment, along with 200 representatives of the world press, stood by at the airport for the arrival of the Walesas, who had flown from Moscow via Copenhagen.

The Nobel ceremony will take place in the old hall of Oslo University, King Olav of Norway, Government ministers and diplomats will attend but no representatives of communist countries were expected.

WARSAW: Mr Walesa hopes to meet a United States envoy in Gdansk this weekend to discuss the prospects of President Reagan lifting sanctions against Poland, informed sources said yesterday (Roger Boyes writes).

Mr Walesa saw his wife and son off at Warsaw airport yesterday. Police sealed off the airport terminal - one official said it was for the safety of the Walesa family, though the suspicion persisted that it was supposed to block a possible Solidarity demonstration - but allowed the former union leader to accompany his wife as far as the passport control.

Asides of Mr Walesa had made clear earlier that the former Solidarity leader would welcome a meeting with Mr John Davis, the US Charge d'Affaires, to talk about his recent policy shift on economic sanctions. He now opposes them.

Third Greek ship hit by Iraqi missile

From Our Own Correspondent, Athens

Another Greek merchant ship, the third in two months, has been hit by Iraqi fire in the Gulf. There was no loss of life. The crew of 12 were rescued by another ship.

The Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine reported that a missile had hit the bulk-carrier Iapetos (16,320 gross tons) some 30 miles from the Iranian

port of Bandar Khomeini.

Iraq announced on Thursday that it had sunk six more ships at the end of the Gulf and repeated its warning to merchant shipping to keep out of what it regards as a war zone.

A spokesman for the Piraeus owners, the Stefanos Stravelakis Shipping Company, said the

Iapetos had loaded steel products in Norway and had called at Immingham on Humber.

"At the time of the attack she was headed for Bandar Khomeini in a convoy of five ships", the spokesman said. "Four of them were hit by missiles launched by aircraft. He could not, however, identify the missile or the aircraft."

Mr Adams, on his way back from the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Delhi, told the Royal Commonwealth Society in London that the coup in which far left revolutionaries first arrested, then murdered, the Prime Minister, Maurice Bishop, and his senior ministers had come "like a series of bolts from the blue".

The initiative for a military response then seemed to have come from the Prime Minister of St Lucia, Mr Michael Pilgrim, who contacted Mr Adams and argued that it was in the interests of the Eastern Caribbean that neighbouring states should intervene and restore law and order. A formal invitation to do so came from the Organization of East Caribbean states which approached not only Barbados, but also Jamaica, Britain and the United States.

"The opinion and approval" of Sir Paul Scoon, Grenada's Governor General, who had become the constitutional authority on the island, was obtained and arrangements made for him to issue a formal invitation to intervene as soon as it was politically safe.

But Mr Adams refused to be drawn on the details of Sir Paul's role in the affair.

WASHINGTON: President Reagan was disappointed by Mrs Margaret Thatcher's criticism of the US invasion of Grenada, White House counsel Edwin Meese said (Reuter reports).

Mr Meese, in an interview with news agency reporters, expressed the hope that Mrs Thatcher had received enough information now to understand and support the action.

Mr Reagan said his reasons for sending US troops to Grenada were to protect American medical students and restore democracy.

Luther stood, and stands, for much of what the Pope opposes most strongly. Apart from Luther's hatred of the Papacy, he favoured a married clergy (and married a nun himself). When considering the bitterness of the insults exchanged between Luther and the pope at the time of the break, it is remarkable that the exchanges even now are at a reasonably friendly level.

Adams defends Grenada invasion

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

The only people who wanted foreign troops to remain on Grenada were the islanders themselves, Mr Tom Adams, the Prime Minister of Barbados, said yesterday.

But he expected the country to return to democratic rule "quite quickly" and even a predictable reaction against the left, following the October coup, would disappear in time.

The military response by the United States and East Caribbean states had been an act of liberation, welcomed by 91 per cent of the people according to a recent poll. It had been an "invasion" only in the sense of the 1944 Normandy landings.

Mr Adams, on his way back from the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Delhi, told the Royal Commonwealth Society in London that the coup in which far left revolutionaries first arrested, then murdered, the Prime Minister, Maurice Bishop, and his senior ministers had come "like a series of bolts from the blue".

The initiative for a military response then seemed to have come from the Prime Minister of St Lucia, Mr Michael Pilgrim, who contacted Mr Adams and argued that it was in the interests of the Eastern Caribbean that neighbouring states should intervene and restore law and order. A formal invitation to do so came from the Organization of East Caribbean states which approached not only Barbados, but also Jamaica, Britain and the United States.

"The opinion and approval" of Sir Paul Scoon, Grenada's Governor General, who had become the constitutional authority on the island, was obtained and arrangements made for him to issue a formal invitation to intervene as soon as it was politically safe.

But Mr Adams refused to be drawn on the details of Sir Paul's role in the affair.

WASHINGTON: President Reagan was disappointed by Mrs Margaret Thatcher's criticism of the US invasion of Grenada, White House counsel Edwin Meese said (Reuter reports).

Mr Meese, in an interview with news agency reporters, expressed the hope that Mrs Thatcher had received enough information now to understand and support the action.

Mr Reagan said his reasons for sending US troops to Grenada were to protect American medical students and restore democracy.

Luther stood, and stands, for much of what the Pope opposes most strongly. Apart from Luther's hatred of the Papacy, he favoured a married clergy (and married a nun himself). When considering the bitterness of the insults exchanged between Luther and the pope at the time of the break, it is remarkable that the exchanges even now are at a reasonably friendly level.

Luther stood, and stands, for much of what the Pope opposes most strongly. Apart from Luther's hatred of the Papacy, he favoured a married clergy (and married a nun himself). When considering the bitterness of the insults exchanged between Luther and the pope at the time of the break, it is remarkable that the exchanges even now are at a reasonably friendly level.

Luther stood, and stands, for much of what the Pope opposes most strongly. Apart from Luther's hatred of the Papacy, he favoured a married clergy (and married a nun himself). When considering the bitterness of the insults exchanged between Luther and the pope at the time of the break, it is remarkable that the exchanges even now are at a reasonably friendly level.

Luther stood, and stands, for much of what the Pope opposes most strongly. Apart from Luther's hatred of the Papacy, he favoured a married clergy (and married a nun himself). When considering the bitterness of the insults exchanged between Luther and the pope at the time of the break, it is remarkable that the exchanges even now are at a reasonably friendly level.

PARLIAMENT December 9 1983

Sex Equality Bill rejected

COMMONS

A private member's Bill, the Sex Equality Bill, which was designed to improve the rights of women at work and in other areas was rejected in the Commons by 198 votes to 118 - majority against 80.

The Bill's sponsor, Ms Jo Richardson (Barking, Lab), who speaks for the Opposition on women's rights but was speaking from the back benches, said the Bill had the support of a wide variety of organizations, groups and individuals. In case it should be thought that had been dressed up by a lot of trendy feminist groups, she was glad to say that the National Federation of Women's Institutes had offered its support.

Mr Alan Clark, Under Secretary of State for Employment, urging the House to reject the Bill, said it was impractical, expensive and in many respects alien to public opinion.

Ms Richardson moving the second reading said people had become more and more frustrated at an unfair and unwarranted limitation on their rights as individuals, and the continuing domination by men, confirming the traditionally accepted role of women as dependent and inferior. Women, the majority of the population, continued to be discriminated against in a large number of areas.

In reality, women were increasingly the sole breadwinner in the household. There were nearly one million single parent families in the country, almost exclusively headed by women.

Most married women worked and, without their earnings, families in poverty would be three times as many. In spite of the Equal Pay Act, the majority of women did not get equal pay.

A complaint about equal pay made before taking up a job would be made under the Sex Discrimination Act. One made after taking the job would be made under the Equal Pay Act. It was ludicrous not to fuse the two Acts together. This Bill put the two together so the problem of deciding which Act to use would not arise.

The Bill would simplify the legislation and bring in the concept of indirect discrimination. For example, part-time workers would be able for the first time to claim, as of right, parity in terms of hourly pay with full-time workers. This in itself would be a big stride towards equal pay for women.

The concept of equal pay for work of equal value was extremely important to hundreds of thousands of women who could not claim it because there were no men in their jobs with whom they could compare their work.

The Government's new regulations on the subject had only been approved by the House of Lords and they did not adequately reflect the decision of the European Court of Justice or the EEC's equal pay directive. The Government has produced unintelligible gobbledegook which would be impossible for women to use in any meaningful way.

The Bill tackled this properly and set out in a simple and constructive way how women could make a



Richardson: Women increasingly the sole breadwinner

claim for equal pay for work of equal value.

There were clubs, including working men's clubs and the post London clubs, which technically opened their doors to both sexes but in practice many of them discriminated against women members.

It was said that women ripped up snooker tables, but the point was that men considered snooker a male preserve. It was discrimination and should be outlawed.

Sexual harassment at work ranged from sexist language and explicitly sexist calendars to more threatening exhortations of women being touched up or asked for sexual favours. This was not only deeply offensive but a manifestation of the male domination of society. It was extremely dangerous to the liberty of women that this sort of thing should continue.

Mr Clark said the Bill sought to make many and far reaching amendments to the Sex Discrimination Act and the Equal Pay Act. Fundamentally its purpose was to repeal those Acts and replace them.

This Government (he said) believes that the Sex Discrimination and Equal Pay Acts are good, sound pieces of legislation. They have fair and realistic objectives and the obligations they impose are one

with which it is practicable to comply.

The Bill did not take account of the practicalities of the real world. It ignored the fundamental principle that access to jobs must be on the basis of merit, not sex. He did not believe many women wanted to be recruited on the basis of their sex and not on the basis of their ability.

The Sex Discrimination Act tackled a genuine problem of sufficient seriousness to merit legislative intervention. While the Act clearly fell into the category of progressive legislation, it was not too far ahead of public opinion. A number of the Bill's provisions went well beyond what public opinion was prepared to support in this very sensitive field of legislation.

The Equal Opportunities Commission had a statutory duty to review the work of the Sex Discrimination and Equal Pay Acts. The Commission intended to bring forward proposals for amendments in the latter half of next year, and the Government would consider them most carefully.

While the Government remained firmly committed to equal opportunity, many of the specific proposals in the Bill were misconceived and taken together they had no option to oppose it.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, said that the attitude of the Labour Party was one of total support for the Bill.

The principle behind the Bill - which the House should not forget - was that discrimination based on sex and sexuality was wrong.

The Equal Pay Act and Sex Discrimination Act has been shown to suffer from important defects. They had been useful and necessary pieces of legislation but were inadequate in some important respects.

Mr Eric Forth (Mid Worcestershire, C), in a maiden speech, said the Bill was attempting to legislate for human behaviour. They were in danger of adding to the behaviour interference industry which already included the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Commission for Racial Equality.

Mr Michael Foot (Blisnau, Gwent, Lab) said he wanted a commitment that the Government would not proceed with its unworkable regulations on equal pay. Its case for the regulations had been torn to tatters in the recent House of Lords debate.

Miss Betty Boothroyd (West, Bromwich West, Lab) said every male chauvinist was some woman's son. If he had grown up to believe that her place was in the kitchen sink she had largely herself to blame.

The sale of heavy water was nothing to do with the present Government. Arms sales to Chile were examined case by case.

Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP, once of tone in the statement from that coming from 10 Downing Street. It was a tragedy that the British Government would not be represented at the inauguration of the new Argentine President.

He asked for clarification of the Prime Minister's statement that Argentina had not made a definitive declaration of cessation of hostilities when the new President, in the midst of the Falkland war, had called it an illegitimate war by an illegal regime in a just cause.

That true democrat should be sustained by the House and Mrs Thatcher should drop her hysterical attitude on foreign Falklands.

Britain knew of US arms plan

ARGENTINA

The announcement yesterday by President Reagan that certification of and possible resumption of arms sales to Argentina had not been sprung on the British Government, Mr Raymond Whitney, Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in a statement in the Commons.

The Prime Minister had made the British position clear to President Reagan when she had seen him in September and the British Government had been kept informed.

Certification under United States law was not equivalent to arms sales.

GRAND SLAM
BRIDGE WEEKENDS
at the
Hotel Bristol
Centenary weekend
ES: Grand Slam parties
Join a weekend Bridge Party
with
Jeremy Flint
Jan 13-15 or 22-24
Detailed notes and video from
Hotel Bristol, corner Shaftesbury
Street/Piccadilly, London W1.
Tel: 01-450 6222.

Book your international calls early and avoid a silent night.

Understandably, our staff of operators will be greatly reduced from 11.00 pm on Christmas Eve until 9.00 am on Boxing Day. They will only be able to connect pre-booked international calls which can't be dialled direct.

So check first to see if you can dial direct. If you can, make sure you know the number as there will be no International Directory.

Enquiry Service from 11 pm on Christmas Eve till 9 am on Boxing Day.

If you can't dial direct, consult your local dialling instructions and book your call with the international operator any time between 8 am on Monday 12 December and 6 pm on 24 December. Remember, speak now or forever hold your peace this Christmas.



British TELECOM International - The International Division of British Telecom

North Koreans sentenced to die for Burma bomb murders

Rangoon (Reuters, AP) — The court, which convened on November 22, passed judgment after 30 prosecution witnesses and material evidence were examined.

The Government will decide later when and how the death sentence will be carried out. Death sentences have seldom been carried out in Burma.

The court said the assassination squad acted on the orders of General Kang Chang Su, of North Korea. The assassins stayed in a North Korean diplomat's house in Rangoon after arriving in Burma by boat.

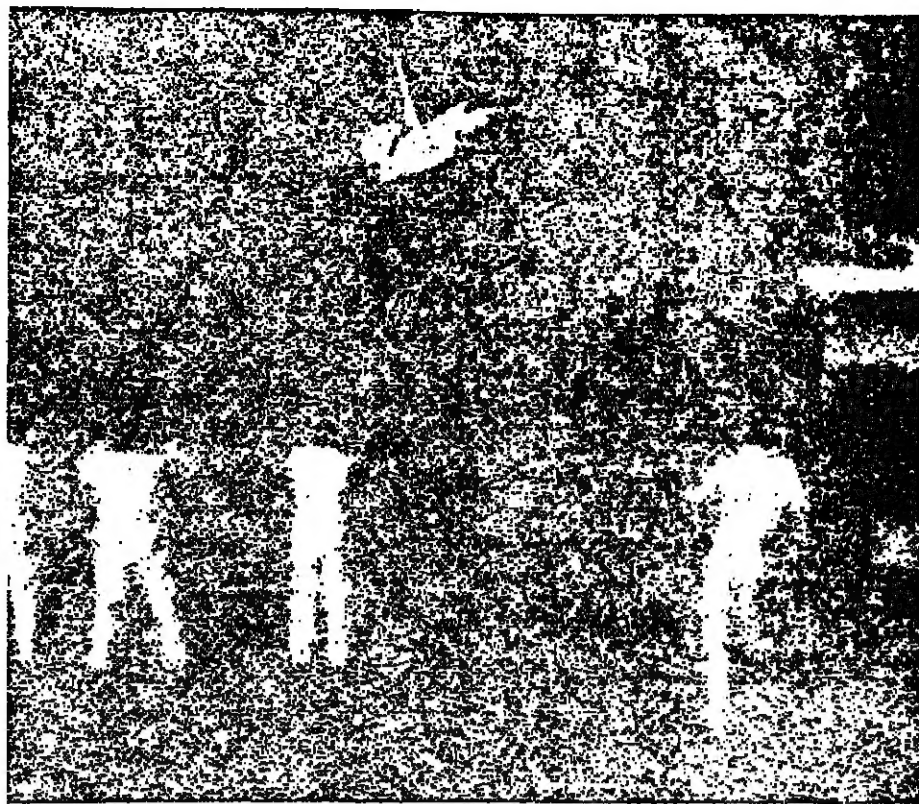
The team planted two Claymore mines and an incendiary bomb in the ceiling of the mausoleum.

President Chun was saved by a traffic delay on the way to the mausoleum. He cancelled the remainder of a six-nation tour of Asia and the Pacific.

The Burmese Government, after conducting its own investigation, last month accused North Korea of responsibility and broke off diplomatic relations. The North Korean Government has denied responsibility.

The court also found the two men guilty of attempted murder and illegal possession of arms, sentencing them to life imprisonment and other jail terms.

Columbia lands safely on a wing and a prayer



Back to earth: Columbia at Edwards Air Force Base after a computer malfunction delayed its return for eight hours.

Investigators began a study of the computers on board the space shuttle Columbia yesterday to find out why two of them failed, delaying the landing by eight hours. (Trevor Fishlock writes from New York).

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) said it would probably take weeks to trace the fault. The first computer shut down when the spacecraft was severely jolted by the firing of rocket thrusters in its nose.

Mr John Young, the commander, said:

"It really hit the vehicle hard". He estimated that the force of the jolt was up to 20 times that of the Earth's gravity.

Back at base he remarked that he had "turned to jelly" when the computer went down, but this was a laconic "right stuff" joke. Mr Young, aged 53, is the most experienced of space travellers, having flown in two Gemini and two Apollo missions. He spent 71 hours on the Moon and flew Columbia on its maiden flight two years ago.

Columbia has four general computers and

one back-up. Any one of these can govern the complex manoeuvres which bring the spacecraft out of orbit and back to Earth.

In extreme emergency a pilot could try to land without the aid of the computer, but it is doubted that a man can react fast enough to carry out all the procedures.

When Columbia's first computer went dead its functions were taken over by the second. A few minutes later this computer failed when thrusters were fired. A third computer took over the navigation. After a while the second machine was restarted but

the trouble struck again when a navigation system failed.

Mission Control in Houston, Texas, wanted to analyse what has happened, fearing that there was a fault which might affect all guidance systems during the critical reentry phase.

As always happens, radio contact was lost during reentry. Mission controllers waited 45 chain-smoking minutes before they heard that Columbia was heading for a text book landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

Air official heads crash inquiry

From Harry Debelius Madrid

With the Spanish airline pilots' union demanding the dismissal of the Director of Civil Aviation, the director of Barajas airport, Madrid and other senior officials, after the collision between two airliners at the airport, a sub-director from the same department has been named to head the committee investigating the accident. It was learned here yesterday.

The committee, led by Señor Celastino Delgado, the sub-director for Air Transport Control, was expected to get the first technical information yesterday from the "black boxes" of the Aviacos DC9 and the Iberia Boeing 727 which collided on a foggy runway at the airport last Wednesday morning, killing 93 people.

The airline pilots' union argued at a press conference on Thursday that inadequate and improper marking, lighting and signposting on the taxiways led the pilot of the DC9 to take a fatal wrong turn, and they put the blame on the administration for not correcting the deficiencies.

However, Señor Enrique Barón, the Minister of Transport and Communications, said the marking and lighting were renovated only a year and a half ago, "with the cooperation of the pilots and in accordance with international standards and regulations."

A spokesman for the Civil Aviation Department admitted to a group of journalists on Thursday evening that the airport had no ground radar, but he maintained that it would not have prevented the crash. He estimated the cost of installing such a system at 1 million pesetas (more than £4m).

Islamic states divided over Cyprus Turks

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

A sharp division among the Islamic states meeting here has shown up in their debates over the Turkish Cypriot community's declaration of independence.

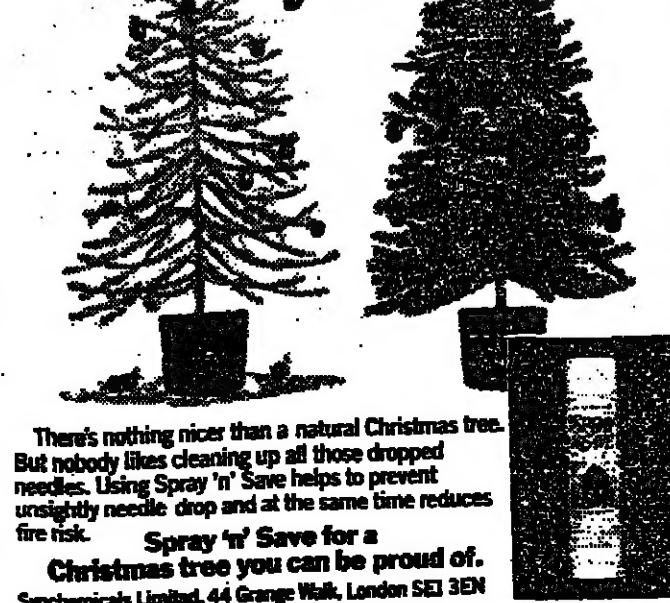
On one side of the Islamic foreign ministers' conference here is a resolution proposed by Pakistan which does not seek to condemn the secession, but which calls for intercommunal talks leading to the establishment of a bi-zonal state.

On the other hand a group of left-wing states, including Syria,

Libya, the Democratic Republic of South Yemen and Algeria, want the resolution to refer to the United Nations resolution, which said the declaration of independence as illegal, called for its withdrawal, and urged all states to refuse recognition.

The Pakistani resolution does not go as far as calling for recognition, even though some states might want it, nor does it offer the Turkish Cypriot state any official status in the Islamic organization.

Someone hasn't used Spray'n'Save



There's nothing nicer than a natural Christmas tree. But nobody likes cleaning up all those dropped needles. Using Spray'n'Save helps to prevent unsightly needle drop and at the same time reduces fire risk.

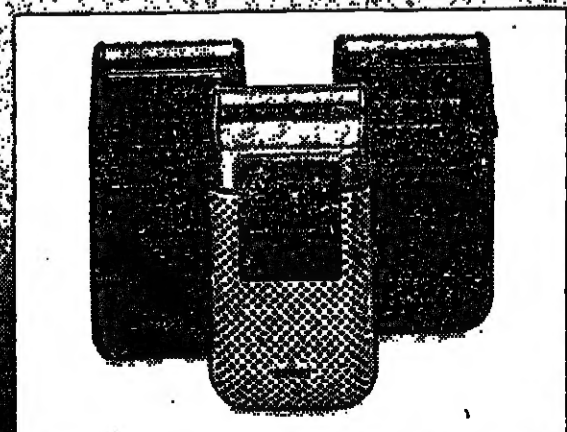
Spray'n'Save for a Christmas tree you can be proud of.

Synchemicals Limited, 44 Grange Walk, London SE1 3EN

NEW Braun synchron universal—the most advanced shaver in the world



- Now Braun has the ultimate shaver. The Braun synchron universal. Designed to give you an unbelievably close shave with its ultra-thin platinum plated foil.
- It is the most convenient shaver yet devised and works both as a mains and as a rechargeable. Its built-in recharger, recharges the new universal in only one hour. And with a special adaptor it can even be recharged from a car or a boat battery.
- Its automatic world-wide voltage adjustment means you can wake up anywhere in the world and still keep up appearances.
- And like all Braun shavers the new synchron universal is covered by a money-back guarantee in December and January, in the unlikely event that you are not completely satisfied.
- The advanced universal technology is also available with micron universal and micron universal 420 series.



The new universals. Only from Braun.

BRAUN

هكذا من الأصل

THE ARTS

Opera High-flying Butterfly

Madam Butterfly
Coliseum



Neil Howlett and Elizabeth Vaughan: thoughtful and intense

A Butterfly must always be prepared for metamorphosis, but not quite so sudden, perhaps, as that demanded on Thursday of Elizabeth Vaughan. After making herself available just a week ago for Covent Garden's emergency *Madama Butterfly*, replacing the ill-fated Esclarnonde, Miss Vaughan as readily flew on to the Coliseum stage at half a day's notice when Eiddwen Harri, the new Butterfly-elect, became ill.

With the chrysalis of Giacosa's and Illica's Italian still clinging to her rather over-large kimono, she lifted the nearly 10-year-old production (with which she is familiar from visits in spring 1982) to heights which, on this first night, it might not otherwise have reached. In one of her most intense and complete performances, the lapses into Italian were never for one moment a distraction: they both delighted and seemed to heighten the tension of her moments of deepest involvement in the part. When asked by Sharpless what she should do if left alone, what, after all, could be more moving than a chill "morire"?

His partnership with Gaetano Delogu, making his debut with English National Opera, is rather too close for comfort: too often Pinkerton sings to the pit, and too often, particularly in the first act, the pit responds with a similar lack of nuance. The orchestra play well; but the energy, opulence and sheer decibel power Delogu draws from them is frequently at the expense of poise and transference.

Things are better, though, in Act 2, where the restless, charming caricature of this

production, now revived by Malcolm Hunter, has calmed down. Stalwarts like Neil Howlett's thoughtful, stern Sharpless and Anne Marie-Owens's warm Suzuki have time and space to come into their own, and provide, in their reliable way, some of the most satisfying Puccini singing of the evening.

Hilary Finch

Television Cornish excess

Farmer's Arms (BBC 2) was billed as a "Cornish 'country and western' comedy", which sounds about as inviting as a "Texan cockney tragedy", and confusion was further compounded by an elliptical directing which gave a clipped and somewhat menacing air to what might have been meant as comic scenes. But the drama was beautifully photographed and its theme - an American nuclear base dominating the values and reactions of a Cornish village - exerted a certain fascination, although, without a strong story to

support a plethora of scenes, that fascination was sometimes stretched to breaking point.

It was, in other words, a good idea which laboured under the disadvantage of being extremely difficult to present convincingly, especially when Mr Colin Welland appeared wearing a siction. Mr Welland has made a career out of theatrical bluntness, and this was his Cornish version: he played Wally, one of the dignitaries of the village to which some of the US Marines were consigned. The number of appalling Cornish "characters" was such, that one could only

really feel sorry for the Americans.

It was difficult to see the precise point of last night's play, although the violence of the Cornishmen against the "Yanks", the preparations for a nuclear war, and the sudden discovery of 15 skeletons on a beach suggested that we were being asked to contemplate the nature of aggression and death. Or perhaps not. Whoever decided that it was a "Cornish 'country and western' comedy" was being wildly over-optimistic, however.

Peter Ackroyd

WEEKEND CHOICE

The Day After (ITV tonight 9.30) is the ultimate of horror served up on a rickety table, writes Peter Daville. Once a city has been destroyed by nuclear missiles, the disaster movie has attained the *ne plus ultra*. From now on, all is anti-climax. And the same is true of this American television film itself once the missiles have landed on Kansas City, instantly converting the walking living who are left into the walking dead. The ghastliness of the film's apocalyptic vision will be too much for some viewers but not enough for others who had been led to expect far worse of Doomsday than this. What seriously flaws the film as a work of fiction is precisely what vitiates all disaster movies, the

superficiality of the sub-plots and the sketchiness of the characters. There is a more profound understanding of the human dimensions of a nuclear armageddon in the gentle lunacy of any of the concluding cartoon strips in Raymond Briggs's *When the Wind Blows* than in the whole of *The Day After*.

Ivor Wilson has written a splendid, chilling thriller for tonight's Saturday Night Theatre production in Afternoon Call (Radio 4 8.30 pm), writes Peter Dear. Deceptively a run-of-the-mill murder mystery, the play develops into one that gives the listener a sense of unease even when the identity of the murderer is disclosed, long before the climax of the

● David's Wade's *Radin* column has been held over until next week.

Peter Grimes
Dominion

Self-righteous hypocrisy roused to mass hysteria is even now as potent a force for tragedy as ever it was among the fisher-folk and village worthies of Benjamin Britten's opera, which the Welsh National Opera brought to London for a single performance on Thursday night as part of their week's visit with Amoco sponsorship. Under Richard Armstrong's incisive and often trenchant conducting, it was the chorus and orchestra who chiefly established a vivid musical and theatrical experience.

Noël Goodwin

Theatre

Don Juan
Jackson's Lane

Appearing for three nights in Highgate, this Actor's Touring Company production offers a well-thought-out, chilling approach to Molière's most ambitious play.

The *commedia dell'arte* devices employed by John Reallack are intimately geared to his reading of the piece. The company assemble in dark raincoats carrying property baskets, and that funeral image persists throughout the production. The baskets are variously rearranged as rostra before finally opening up at the statue's feet like the mouth of hell.

While scenes pass in period costumes there is often a sepulchral rain-coated observer stationed at the edge of the action. And the copious doubling gives pride of place to Richard Henry, a Voltaire-like

gnome, who reappears as the forest beggar, Elvira's avenging brother, and the hero's father - marking successive stages on Juan's road to damnation.

Commedia, in other words, is converted into an expressionist device, shorn of its fun but rich in menace. Against that sombre background, Edmund Falzon is able to define the positive as well as the negative sides of Juan as a rebel *liber*in defying an inescapable fate. It is a low-key performance. Its key is the declaration of sincerity to Terry John's *Sganarelle*; he is totally honest to his servant and his audience.

The surrounding company includes a barn-storming Marthine from Claire Benedict; and a seaside seduction played (in Nigel Gearing's translation) in full-blooded Irish brogue.

Irving Wardle

Anthony Masters

Concert

Juilliard Quartet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Sustained contact with the precision of Webern's music certainly has an effect on the way that one hears. Turning aside for just a single evening from nightly attendance at the current Barbican Festival of his works, I found myself listening, on the South Bank, to three earlier Viennese masters as if through some kind of aural microscope.

It was as well, probably, that they were played by the Juilliard String Quartet, whose unanimity of intonation is such that one has the impression of being able to "see through the sound". Their Thursday night programme began with an item of nearly Weberian brevity, Schubert's C minor *Quartet*, his first piece of mature quartet music. The initial tremolos hovered insubstantially, and this was an understated, almost withdrawn, reading that was somehow all the more effective because of its exactness.

Max Harrison

LIMITED SEASON ONLY

17 Dec - 23 Jan

Seats avail. for perfs in the New Year

J.M. BARRIE'S

PETER PAN

Katy Belton Wendy Stephen Moore Captain Hook/Mr Darling Edward Petherbridge Storyteller Mark Rylance Peter Pan Frances Tomelty Mrs Darling John Caird Director John Napier Designer

IRRESISTIBLE... SIMPLY NOT TO BE MISSED

F. Times 1982

ALVIN NEIDERLANDER ASSOCIATES INC. by James Niederlander, President

THE BEST BRAINS IN THE CITY COULDN'T COMPETE WITH THIS SMALL COIN.



Surprising, but true. For sheer performance, a simple one ounce Krugerrand has done better than any of the unit trusts, insurance schemes or savings accounts offered by the giant financial institutions of the City of London. Over ten years, the value of gold in sterling has increased in value by an enormous 963%. Two and a half times the rate of inflation, which was 373%. Over the same period, even the best-managed unit trusts couldn't match gold's growth. The top-performing trust of all (assuming you were lucky enough to pick it) achieved 670%. Most of the others did far worse. And a typical with-profits endowment policy from a life assurance company would have increased in value by less than the inflation rate. In fact, only one form of investment, buying a house, even came close to gold. Thanks to Krugerrands, gold is very easy to buy.

As with unit trusts, you can simply speak to your bank manager. He can handle the whole transaction for you, storing the coins as well as buying them. In fact, over 6,800 high street banks sell Krugerrands. Without forms or formalities. And there's a choice of four different sizes: 1oz, 1/2oz, 1/4oz, 1/10oz. How do the massive institutions of the City feel about the remarkable performance of Krugerrands? They buy them. Of the 39 million Krugerrands already sold worldwide many are in the hands of the major banks, stockbrokers, and multinational corporations. And in the UK thousands of private investors have made handsome gains by buying and holding onto Krugerrands. But many more have put their money into schemes that haven't come anywhere near gold for performance or even safety.

Is your investment portfolio suffering from lack of gold? Talk to your bank manager or stockbroker now.

For further information on investing in gold fill in the coupon and send it to: International Gold Corporation, PO Box 42P, London W1A 4ZP.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

THE KRUGERRAND

The Ultimate Asset.

SPORTING DIARY

Just not cricket

Eton and Harrow play up a play there; club men and village boys swipe and swashbuckle there; South Africans play there and sometimes wear England jerseys as well. But once again, the England women's cricket team have had their request to do the same turned down. Problems with the fixtures, they are told.

"We asked if we could play New Zealand in a one-day international at Lord's on any Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday between June 12 and August 6," said the Women's Cricket Association's redoubtable PRO, Rachel Heyhoe Flint. "We're all very sad not to be playing at Lord's. The women's team has played there just once since the WCA was founded in 1926, and that was to celebrate their half-centenary in 1976. "Perhaps we'll play there again in another 50 years," said Mrs Flint.

Beethoven book

Tickets for Albert Hall boxing events always bear the legend "betting strictly prohibited". Our boxing man, Srikanth Sen, is wondering if tickets to Promenade Concerts have the same inscription and, if not, whether he should make a book on Beethoven's ninth: 2-1 the soprano misses the big note. There's joy for you.

Sweet revenge

Chocs away - the British National Squash Championships have lost the sponsorship of Thornton's, the confectioners, but they have been taken under the wing of Just Juice. What is more, two girls from Guernsey, the spiritual home of the tomato, are seeded to contest the women's final this weekend.

● Last strokes are already running a book on the World Cup, which reaches the final stage in Mexico in 1986. There are 121 runners at this stage, but they make Brazil an ungenerous 7-2 with Argentina at 5-1, England are 16-1, with Scotland 50-1 and Wales and Northern Ireland 100-1.

BARRY FANTONI



"A simple misunderstanding, my lord: my client blew into a taxi-driver."

Valiant seven

FIFA are accustomed to their wretched brew of problems with the World Cup but at least they don't have the agonies of the organizers of the fifth African Men's Volleyball Championship, which started at Port Said this week. Of the 16 teams due to compete, only seven turned up. Put your money on Egypt - they trained in China.

Quick change

The worst thing in football, says the Brighton player Jimmy Case, is getting changed: "It seems to spend half my day getting in and out of different clothes. His problems are as nothing when compared with Daley Thompson's in the course of a decathlon. Daley will take his trousers off and on approximately 23 times.

● Quote of the week: "When an industry provides £272m for the Exchequer and sees only £19m returned through the betting levy, and is then told that the Exchequer will not follow an EEC directive on VAT to create parity between ourselves and the French and Irish, it will protest loudly. The English ever so neatly act to be like the French and the Irish, but in the case of bloodstock, Home Secretary, do ask you to seek your Government's consideration." The Marquis of Tavistock at the Gimcrack dinner.

Sorry, lads

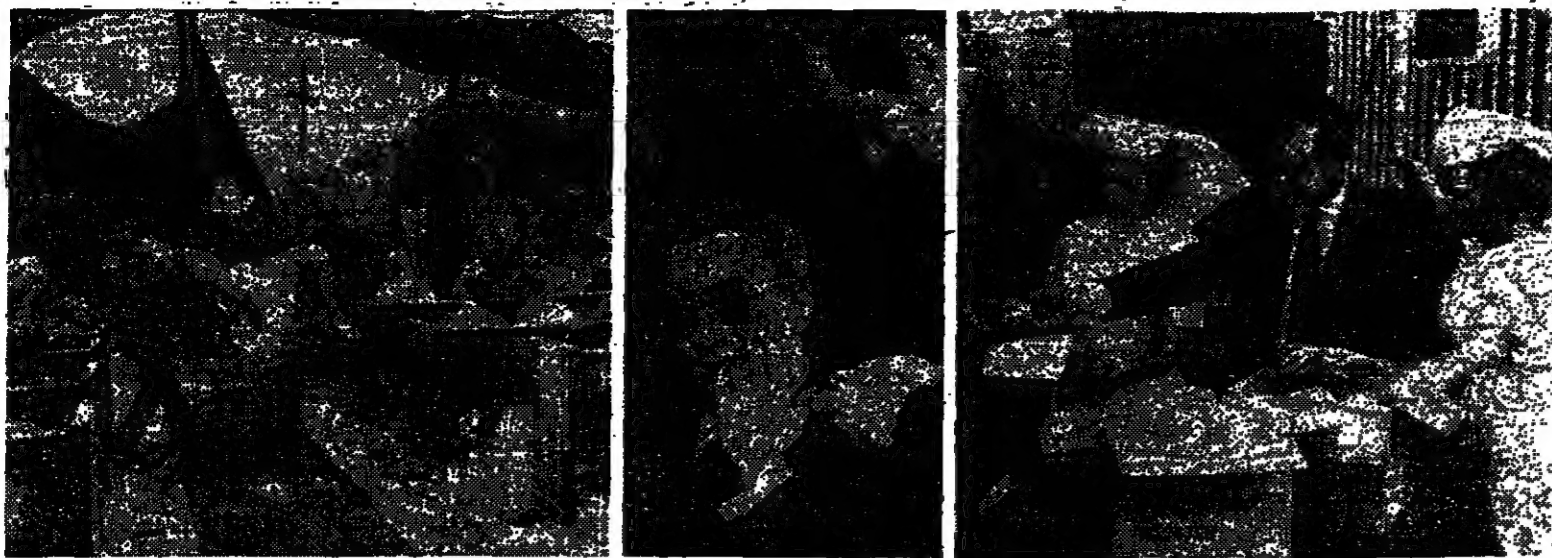
This week's hot tip: Harrow Borough of the Isthmian League will definitely beat the Third Division club, Newport County in the second round match against Bury. The reason? I have been covering FA matches from the first qualifying round onward, following the winners each time, and have been a Jonah to every side. No team I have covered has won twice. Singlehandedly, I have accounted for Chalfont St Peter, Uxbridge, Hampton, Slough and Poole. Newport, today's overdogs, are in trouble. Sorry, lads, but that's football.

More on the Cup: Ian Botham is in the Southampton squad of 14 for the second round match against Bury since the club's top scorer, Carmack, is carrying an injury. "Botham is not there just to make up the numbers," said the Southampton manager, Allan Clarke. Tempting fate: Franz Beckenbauer: "Once again, Hordell has demonstrated that he cannot do it when it matters." Ted Croker: "We will definitely qualify."

Simon Barnes

Armageddon out of focus

Bernard Levin finds 'The Day After' aimed at the wrong targets



Three film views of nuclear war: victims in *The Day After*; the doomsday man of *Dr Strangelove*; medical aid in *On the Beach*

Since *The Day After*, which is to be seen on ITV this evening, will inevitably be discussed almost entirely in terms of its effect on public opinion and on those who are obliged to take that opinion into account in the framing of policy, and since those who commissioned it (the ABC television network in the United States) and made it (Edward Hume, scriptwriter, Nicholas Meyer, director) must have been aware from the start that that would be the result, and indeed must in large measure have intended it to be, it falls to be judged by the standards and principles of political debate rather than of artistic quality.

As it happens, that is just as well, for even on the most indulgent view of it in cinematic terms it is the veriest trash; it inevitably challenges comparison with such other nuclear-holocaust films as Kubrick's *Dr Strangelove* and Kramer's *On the Beach*, and falls such a test with devastating completeness. It is composed almost entirely of verbal and visual clichés, the acting is dreadful, and its most striking single image - a vast panoramic shot of wounded and dying people waiting hopelessly for succour - is lifted straight from *Gone With the Wind*. (There is some ingenious and effective trick photography for the nuclear holocaust itself, and the make-up department has clearly been given its head, together with an unlimited budget for supplies of latex, gelatine and ketchup.)

The Day After sets out to show that full-scale nuclear exchange would be a hideous and unparalleled disaster; it may be said to have proved this point as conclusively as the manufacturers of calendars could prove, if they were minded to, that Christmas comes but once a year. On the other hand, a drunk who announces that twice two are four and that he will fight any man who denies it is unlikely to have his challenge accepted even by the most belligerent among his audience, and it is not clear whether the makers of *The Day After* believe that the

western world is awash with people who think that nuclear war would be a most delightful experience or whether they are aware that everybody is already possessed of their central argument and are obliged to pretend otherwise lest they should begin to ask themselves why they made the film in the first place.

In seeking an answer to this question let us begin with the last of the film's many excursions into sleight-of-mind. The final moments are devoted to a statement of what we are presumably asked to believe were the makers' motives. They claim to hope that the images of devastation will inspire the world's peoples and leaders to avert the catastrophe; the fallacy is as obvious as the argument that nuclear war would be bad for its users' health, but it must nevertheless be set out and condemned.

The peoples of the western world will see *The Day After*, millions of Americans have already done so, a large audience may be expected in Britain tonight, and no doubt dubbed or sub-titled versions will be shown throughout Western Europe and in other countries where the rulers do not decide what films may be seen. The peoples of the Soviet Union and its Empire, however, are rather unlikely to be allowed to see it; nor, even if they were to, would they be in a position to express dissent from the military policies of their rulers if such dissent is what the film inspired them to, for the one thing that the Soviet rulers will in no circumstances tolerate is a Campaign for Soviet Disarmament. (That is not just a general deduction from Soviet policy. Alexander Shostakovich and Vladimir Mikhaylov, two members of a genuine Soviet peace group - The Group for Establishing Trust between the USSR and USA - have been in prison, awaiting trial, since July 1982. In August of the same year, an exhibition of paintings in memory of the victims of Hiroshima, held in a private house, was forcibly broken

up and the pictures confiscated; the artist was sentenced to a month in a psychiatric "hospital", and has suffered eight periods of house arrest. Another exhibition, also in a private house, sought to portray the activities of the peace movement in America; the KGB first prevented anyone from going in, then arrested one of the organizing group, then beat up the man in whose apartment the exhibition was to take place.) The missiles that in the film we see destroying the United States are Soviet missiles, and although in this country the campaigners for western disarmament will spend the next weeks trying to shuffle that fact away and to concentrate on the horrors depicted, it is important for the rest of us to remember it, because it reminds us of why we have nuclear weapons at all.

We have them as a deterrent to Soviet aggression; the film is careful never to say plainly which side fires nuclear rockets first, but since the war is started by the Soviet Union (following widespread mutiny in the East German army - another reason why the Soviet people will not see the film) seating off West Berlin, the implication (there is talk of an American ultimatum) is that the United States used nuclear weapons to stem a conventional attack. Thus the trick is done, and the point - that American missiles are hot-headed and dangerous (unlike Soviet missiles, which many members of CND earnestly believe are filled with funny hats, mottos and tangerines wrapped in silver paper) - is reinforced by a speech from the American President after the holocaust, when he is heard boasting that the United States had not weakened in defence of liberty, for which he had been willing to destroy the world. Whoopie.

With that, the film becomes no more than fuel for the flames of CND's most dishonest form of propaganda for one-sided western disarmament (a fire that in the weeks ahead will be fanned by every

means available to the movement); with the aid of *The Day After*, those whose only effect can be to weaken the West will tell us that because nuclear war would be a catastrophe beyond anything the world has ever seen, which is true, the only way to avoid it is to assume that our enemies are really our friends and will do us no harm even if they think they can do us harm with impunity, which is not.

A film like *The Day After*, which shows what would happen in a nuclear attack - and obviously what it shows is more or less what would really happen - should make us feel even more strongly that we have to avoid such a catastrophe. That duty this film betrays; it shows the horrors in lavish detail, mutters about the world being crazy and the President of the United States crazier than most, then throws up its hands and weeps for mankind. But mankind will not be saved by tears; mankind will be saved by cool heads and resolute policies, or, to put it in the most practical terms, by the West convincing the Soviet Union's leaders that there is a line beyond which an advance by them would entail an unacceptable risk. Of course even Soviet domination and the extinction of our freedoms, national identity and hope would be less terrible than nuclear extermination. But these things are not less terrible than continuing to live in the armed camp that the world has been for a third of a century - and, since the knowledge of nuclear weapons cannot be unlearned, will continue to be for the foreseeable future. *The Day After* will not shift the terms of the nuclear debate - the debate over the best way of avoiding nuclear war - one inch in any direction. All it can do is to soften a few more heads, increase the emotional content in an argument already over-supplied with it, and induce nightmares in the more impressionable members of the audience. Not enough.

©Times Newspapers Ltd. 1983

Moscow's moles and the 'Nazi spy'

On Monday the Public Records Office releases the secret papers which tell of the wartime interrogation of Oswald Mosley. Nigel West suggests why some documents will remain under wraps

tendent Albert Canning, who reported to the Assistant Commissioner to the CID, Sir Norman Kendall. Canning and Kendall shared publicity, but for more than a decade both men dominated the surveillance of political extremists in pre-war London.

Special Branch detectives, then and now, enjoy no extra powers, and the only qualification for entry into the branch is the knowledge of, at least one foreign language. M15, on the other hand, is altogether quite different and, until 1963 and the publication of the Denning Report on the Profumo affair, remained an unacknowledged department of government.

Responsibility for monitoring Blackshirt activity rested with two highly secret sections of M15: B5(b), a sub-division of the counter-espionage B Division, which was headed by the mysterious Captain Max Knight, who ran agents into those political groups suspected of collaborating with German spies, and the political branch, known as F Division, headed by Roger Hollis, which monitored all the extremist parties of both left and right.

F2 dealt with the communists while F3 kept a watch on the various

nationalist movements, and certain individuals suspected of pro-Nazi sympathies.

After the war had broken out a galaxy of talent was persuaded to join F Branch to help to identify the potential Fifth Columnists. They included such distinguished men as Sir Roger Fulford, the historian, and Sir Blanshard Stamp, a future Lord of Appeals. In addition to this monitoring of subversives, the "watchers" of B6 undertook to keep selected suspects under observation.

During the latter part of 1940 the deployment of the Watcher Service was the responsibility of a bright new M15 recruit from the Field Security Police named Anthony Blunt.

Initially F3 was in the hands of an M15 officer named Aiken Sneath, but in 1939 a Winchester and Oxford-educated journalist from the *Illustrated London News* was recruited to assist in dealing with the fascists. He was Graham Mitchell, and it was his job to monitor the activities of Mosley and his supporters. It was partly as a result of his advice that Churchill ordered Mosley and his wife to be detained in May, 1940.

Two days earlier Max Knight had

masterminded the arrest of Tyler Kent, Kent's diplomatic immunity was suspended by Ambassador Joseph Kennedy, and when Max Knight and Special Branch detectives searched the American's flat in Gloucester Place on May 20, 1940, they seized more than 1,500 classified telegrams.

In the weeks leading up to his arrest in 1940, Tyler Kent had removed the "flimsies" of 1,700 telegrams from the embassy and shown them to a pro-Nazi MP, Captain Archibald Ramsay, and other members of his secret right-wing discussion group known as *The Right Club*. From there they were delivered to an assistant naval attaché at the Italian Embassy for onward transmission to Berlin.

Captain Ramsay was promptly detained at Brixton under the Emergency Regulations and Tyler Kent was tried at the Old Bailey for breaches of the Official Secrets Act. He was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment and deported back to the United States on his release.

Concern grew about Soviet penetration of the security service. What has remained under wraps is the fact that during the post-war reassessment of M15's wartime performance. In particular, a review was undertaken of all those cases previously classified as fascist-motivated, including the most important case of all, that of Tyler Kent.

M15's postwar investigators learned that in fact Kent had been recruited by the Russians while on attachment to the American Embassy in Moscow, where he had been immediately before his posting to London. The implication was that much of the pro-Nazi subversion monitored by F Division in the early months of the war had in fact been orchestrated from Moscow, not Berlin.

It will be recalled that during this period the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact of August 1939, which allied the Soviet Union to Nazi Germany, was in force and remained so until the invasion of Russia in June, 1941. Since M15's surveillance on the pro-Nazi sympathisers in London had been in the hands of Anthony Blunt and others later suspected of working under Soviet control, it is not entirely surprising that six M15 files on the subject should have been retained.

Far from covering up the alleged involvement of senior politicians with the Blackshirts, the files are more likely to contain information concerning that most sensitive of all subjects, Soviet penetration of the security service.

Nigel West is the author of *M16: British Secret Intelligence Service Operations 1909-45*, published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson, price £9.95.



Tyler Kent and Oswald Mosley: Communist among the fascists?

Woodrow Wyatt

US up against the jingo factor

A discreditable anti-Americanism lurks not far from the surface in the British mind. For periods it is suppressed. When something happens which appears to give it respectable justification out it jumps unrestrained.

Last Monday in the House of Commons was an instance. The Americans' refusal of the murder of several hundreds of US servicemen in their peacekeeping force in Lebanon (plus more recent attacks) had struck back at the Syrians who had given the murderers the base from which to operate. The American action wasn't very cleverly carried out: it lacked the precision of an Israeli raid, but it was understandable.

The weight of the voices in the Commons did not try to understand it. Denis Healey vigorously mined all he could out of the vein of anti-Americanism, misusing his formidable knowledge of international affairs as cover for his purpose. Anti-Americanism goes down a treat with most of the Parliamentary Labour Party and shields Mr. Healey from the arrows of the Marxist inclined. (Why he should bother with them now that he has no future in Labour Party is a mystery which can be explained only by him.)

Why are we so ready to query American motives and actions? Jealousy. It is decades since Britain relinquished the positions which gave us real power in the world. We were right to leave India, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and the Gulf states. Our belief that countries should be independent arbiters of their own fate, added to our reduced circumstances relative to the rest of the world, made this inevitable.

But it is obvious that in some areas, such as the Middle East, British withdrawal left major opportunities to the Russians and undemocratic forces hostile to the West. America's attempt to fill the gap should have our support and it would have, were it not for our residual feeling that it is we who should be doing what America is doing and that we would be doing it much better.

But what are we going to say if the

could unless stopped by the Americans? Well, Mr Healey would say, supported by Tories still bitter that America has taken over our previous world role, that the Americans have no business to intervene. If that advice were heeded there would be a very nasty hole in many non-communist economies.

I have yet to see a television documentary in Britain which puts the case for the US's worries about Central America. We get plenty of footage about atrocities committed by anti-Marxist and anti-Cuban forces but none about the atrocities the Marxists and Cubans commit. Cuba and Central America are a long way from us but they are close to the US. Where is the documentary programme dispassionately examining the intentions of Cuba, backed by the Soviet Union, to set up Marxist dictatorships to threaten America? We lacked on fast enough to the alleged constitutional propriety of the American action in Grenada and appeared to resent it being given another chance for democracy.

We asked for cruise missiles to be sited here. Even Tories see an opportunity for anti-Americanism in their arrival and foolishly demand dual-key control, with the clear implication that America has suddenly become untrustworthy. The fact that American F111s have been, and still are, flying from British bases for years carrying enough nuclear weapons to blot out most of Russia without any dual control by us does not halt the illogicality of the anti-Americanism over cruise missiles. Nor does our own possession of nuclear weapons sufficient to start a third world war without the USA demanding dual control over them.

We dare not go it alone. We know that the non-communist world depends for its defence on the US. We may regret that it does not depend on us but it is petty-minded to extend that regret into spiteful and condescending attacks on the US. The willingness of America to listen to Britain, for whom the Reagan Administration retains a strong respect and affection, is damaged by the ease with which we understand the points of view of American opponents but not hers.

Philip Oakes

The good, the bad and the eminent



Autobiographers Beverley Nichols, A. J. P. Taylor and Laurie Lee: what price "Amis's Law"?

The other night on BBC1's *Bookmark* programme I was, not to put too fine a point on it, mugged by Kingsley Amis, who declared his dislike of a book of mine called *At the Jazz Band Ball* - the concluding volume in a trilogy of memoirs. What Amis complained of was not how the book was written but that it had been written at all. I lacked one vital qualification. "He's not eminent," Amis told the programme's presenter, Simon Winchester. "You could take a boring account of a childhood in a Swiss village because it's Albert Schweitzer who's doing it, and that would be interesting. But Oakes isn't eminent enough."

Apart from Amis's enthusiasm for Dr Schweitzer (an unlikely hero for the *Daily Express* drinks columnist. I would have thought) what surprised me was how brisely he made his point, as though it was a rule of thumb which all would-be memoirists should have absorbed with their mother's milk. But, of course, it's no such thing. What Amis was complaining was a new literary principle - Amis's Law, no less - which, if it is accepted, could substantially alter one's approach to books written and books to come. It decrees that eminence is a pre-requisite of autobiography, a yardstick which all practitioners of Eng. Lit. should stow in their knapsacks forthwith.

But the E-factor (E for eminence) is hard to define. On *Bookmark*, I noticed, Amis was introduced as a chap who now "sports a CBE for services to English literature." Is that the sort of eminence he had in mind? Or was he thinking in more general terms? "Distinguished superiority (social, intellectual, etc.)" says the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*, which rules out any number of autobiographers whose most notable works were written long before their present eminence was recognized. Laurie Lee was a well-regarded but minor poet before *Cider with Rosie* established his reputation. Casanova was a necessarily obscure but a libertine before his *Story of My Life* was acclaimed by the world at large.

Beverley Nichols led with his chin by writing an autobiography at 25, but the book nudged him into a kind of celebrity which, for the rest of his life, he found it hard to live up to. Chasing the E-factor is like trying to decide whether the chicken or the egg came first. It could form the basis of a good party game.

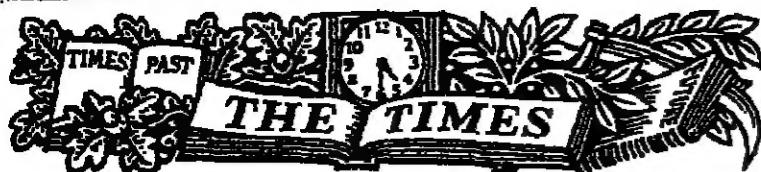
Some people, of course, are born with the E-factor. Kings and dukes

have it, although there's no guarantee that it will equip them as men of letters. Others have it thrust upon them, which conceivably brings such contrasting life stories as *A Yorkshire Boyhood* by Roy Hattersley and *A Man of Honour*, the true confessions of Joseph Bonnamy, head of the American Mafia, under the same net. But where does Amis place recent practitioners of the art such as John Osborne, Clive James, A. J. P. Taylor and Christine Keeler? Are they all eminent enough? Or are there some who are one, or conceivably two, degrees under?

In the days of the Raj there was a pig-sticking regiment in India which has as its motto the terse commandment: "Never complain, never explain." Every author should take it to heart and it is in no spirit of remonstrance that I make my enquiry. Perhaps it's worth pointing out, though, that my own trilogy was not conceived as a view from the heights but as a personalized social history of three decades which tells something of English life. The E-factor never comes into it. Nor does the number of books which survey their own times (often with a worm's-eye view) offering conversations and insights which eminence would blinker.

For example: Hubert Nicholson's *Half My Days and Nights*, which celebrates the provincial Bohemia of the 1930s; Julian Maclaren-Ross's *Memoirs of the Forties*, set largely in literary Fitzrovia; *Two Flamboyant Fathers* by Nicolette Devas, which describes a childhood lived in the turbulent shadow of Augustus John and William Goldsworthy's *East End My Cradle*, which marvellously recreates the Steppen of the 1920s. They may not measure up to the Amis prescription for autobiography. But their vitality, their candour and their vision transcend any glib and peevish concept.

Times change, of course, so do ideas of eminence. Just yesterday I wrote a letter from an author who wrote to me in September 1953, thanking me for my review of his novel which the majority of critics had either disliked or misunderstood. "I really am most grateful for your understanding and sympathetic review," he wrote. "These older persons of refinement and taste, even when they praised the book, were hopelessly (and I should hope demagogically) far from the target. But then they all went to Eton, so how can they know?" It is signed Kingsley Amis.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

SOUTH ATLANTIC PARTNERS

Argentina today acquires a new President, Senator Alfonsín was democratically elected. He represents a break with forty years of turbulent political alternation between Peronism and military dictatorship. His election obviously does not guarantee that that volatile country with its ruined economy will indefinitely sustain a leader who, alone of his peers, stood out in opposition to the invasion of the Falklands. But that fact adds extra significance and symbolism to his election, and it should elicit an appropriate response from Britain which has sadly not yet been forthcoming.

Of course there are difficulties and distractions, of which the question of resumed American arms sales to Argentina is only the most recent. It is, frankly, an irrelevance, in the longer term context of the Falklands and British relations with Argentina. It occurs partly because the Reagan administration has endorsed a certification of progress on human rights in Argentina, which means that the embargo on arms sales can now be lifted. Perhaps Washington has been premature in the lifting of that embargo since it suggests that human rights progress has been made by the now wholly discredited junta which was dissolved two days ago. It would have been better to have waited until such progress could clearly have been attributed to positive measures taken by Senator Alfonsín's administration.

However, it is a distraction because British ministers know both that Senator Alfonsín neither wants nor needs arms from the United States with which to alter the local balance of power in the South Atlantic, and because the American Administration would not wish to sell him arms which would have such an effect. The hope for a normalization of Anglo-Argentine relations, expressed by Mr. Thatcher in the Commons yesterday and by Baroness Young in Tuesday's wide-ranging debate on the Falklands in the Lords, is the more sensible attitude to convey.

British policy towards Argentina must therefore be calculated, where possible, to assist the fortunes of Senator Alfonsín in his attempts to consolidate power and rehabilitate democracy in his country. There will be

a need to prevent any recurrence of a situation where the underlying Argentine feeling on the Falklands can be exploited unscrupulously for domestic political purposes leading to a knee-jerk reaction with tragic consequences.

How can this be done? First, there should be no British ambiguity of the kind which preceded and was partially responsible for last year's Argentine invasion. We know now that the Argentines would never have attacked if they had thought the British would respond in kind. The British position should thus be clear cut: that will recognize that sovereignty over the Falklands - certainly some of them - is disputed, that neither side regards its claim as negotiable, that neither side is willing for the claim to be tested at the International Court, and that the basis of each side's claim is anyway unlikely to be clear enough for any judicial decision to be reached.

In this the position of the islanders is crucial. But it cannot be the sole factor. The doctrine of self-determination is not clear enough to point the way further than the assertion that no change in the administration and government of the Falkland Islands should be agreed without the fullest consideration of the islanders' views. Logically self-determination could lead to creation of an independent Falklands. That might be attractive as a means of overcoming the residual anti-colonialist attitudes which underlie much of the international opposition to the British position. In practice it is not desired by the islanders, or by Britain, since it would merely create one more micro-state without the means to defend itself in a potentially hostile environment - another Belize or Grenada in the making.

Nevertheless the conversations currently in hand between Britain and the Falklanders are based on moves to establish a fully self-governing colony, but still a colony; and a colony of only some 500 householders surrounded by many more troops. Admittedly the size of the garrison will drop on completion of the new air strip, as will the running expense of defending the Falklands. But long before then it should be

hoped that discussions with Argentina, even without resolution of the irreconcilable positions on sovereignty, had established in practice that, whatever the juridical status of this or that island, all three parties - Argentina, Britain and the Falklands - were legitimately and collectively involved in the future, not just because of geography, but because of the need for long term development of resources in the South Atlantic and Antarctica.

Britain is legitimately concerned with that part of the world as a participant in the Antarctic Treaty, to which now even India and China have acceded. The Argentine claim to the Falkland Dependencies is a nonsense juridically and geographically - South Georgia for instance is as far from Argentina as Britain is from Greenland - but the Antarctic Treaty at least has provided a useful precedent for international cooperation without prejudice to or disturbance of unresolved claims of sovereignty.

Consequently the future status of the Falklands should not stand in the way of Anglo-Argentine cooperation provided that Britain can make it clear that whatever that status will be - it will contain an Anglo-Argentine dimension of some kind. The actual constitution of the Falklands is now a matter for the islanders and the British Government, but the ultimate relationship will undoubtedly have to be a tripartite one within the region as a whole. Britain's readiness to accommodate Argentina should be coupled with an unambiguous intention to remain an active participant and collaborator in the South Atlantic and Antarctica where the two countries could work together on the basis of mutual respect.

How we get there remains to be seen, since it will be a slow process. But given that the fact and history of the Falklands inspires in each country an emotional and political response of particular intensity, it should - indeed it must - be possible to work for a future where the Islands become the symbol of an Anglo-Argentine partnership in the South Atlantic and Antarctica and no longer an open wound.

THE NAMIBIAN PRESSURE-POINT

France's decision not to attend any further meetings of the Western "contact group" on Namibia is valuable in drawing attention to the fact that the group has failed in its task of persuading South Africa to allow the birth of an independent Namibia. In the five years of its life, the group - Britain, United States, West Germany, Canada and France - has made progress on a number of issues; there is now virtual agreement on such things as how to organize free and fair elections, the composition and deployment of a United Nations truce administering force and the number of dispositions of South African troops in the transition period. But the agreements have not been enough to move Pretoria out of power.

African nations are agreed that the blame for this lies at the door of the United States because it brought into the dispute the concept of "linkage" - that is, it made a settlement depend on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. This view gained considerable support at the Commonwealth conference in Delhi, and it is the main factor that persuaded M. Claude Cheysson that the group should be "put to sleep". It is, however, unfair to the Americans in many ways. A truer analysis might be that there is no settlement because the South Africans do not wish for a settlement. Whether the Americans - or, indeed, the West - can or should do anything about that is another, more difficult, question.

There is much misunderstanding about "linkage". In the first place, it cannot be denied that the presence of Cuban troops in Angola is not part of the remit of the "contact group": the troops are there at the invitation of the Angola government and the matter legally concerns no one but the Angolan and Cuban governments. The South African

policy, on the other hand, is in Namibia in defiance of United Nations Security Resolution 435 and the matter is thus the business of the international community and the "contact group".

The Americans admit this. They talk of a "parallel" withdrawal of the Cubans rather than a "linked" withdrawal. Their point is that the Cubans are indisputably there and contribute to the instability of the region: more importantly, their withdrawal could give the South African government an added incentive to allow the installation of a hostile government in Windhoek. The Americans argued that they could help to strike a deal. This seemed plausible, and the rest of the "contact group" stayed quietly in the background (with mounting embarrassment on the part of the French Socialists) while Mr. Chester Crocker and his aides travelled repeatedly between Pretoria, Luanda and the so-called "frontline states". But they failed, as M. Cheysson has now pointed out.

There seemed to be good reasons why the South Africans should welcome a settlement: the war costs them about \$500m a year and 77 South African troops were killed in 1982 (that may seem a small number, but the army is conscript and the war unpopular). It has been argued that with Namibia off its back, South Africa might better be able to negotiate its way back into the world's favour (especially with well-disposed governments in Washington and London). And some military men have argued that the Orange River provides a more easily-defensible border than the Angolan-Namibian border.

But these arguments do not prevail in Pretoria. The military men are pleased with their conduct of the war against Swapo (they are winning, but

they will never end it) and happily plan other incursions out of the larger into neighbouring states. The politicians reason that if the world was not worrying about Namibia it would turn its full attention to righting wrongs within South Africa. And within South Africa Mr. Botha's government, with the granite of Afrikaner unity already split beneath its feet by its so-called "reforms", would lose votes to Dr. Andries Treurnicht and his Conservative Party if he appeared to sell out in Namibia.

What suits Mr. Botha best is to be able to delay things, avoiding a crunching confrontation but also conceding nothing. He has particularly welcomed the "linkage" issue because it has enabled him to put the onus onto the Angolans: "Yes, I will agree, provided the Angolans expel the Cubans first," he says, confident that the Angolans will not do so, if only because of the threat from the South African-supported Unita rebels.

The weakness of the Americans' policy - and of their whole "constructive engagement" in southern Africa - is that there is no threat, no stick to go with the carrot. The West will never agree to sanctions (which would not be effective anyway) and America is too deeply committed to think of just walking away. On the other hand, the constructive part of American policy has not allowed Mr. Botha to feel secure about his leisurely efforts to adapt to reality.

The recognition of failure (thanks to M. Cheysson) might inspire some rethinking. There are no easy answers. Dramatic gestures like sanctions would almost certainly be counter-productive. But some way must be found of keeping pressure on South Africa, towards a settlement in Namibia immediately and peacefully change within the republic in the long run.

this city of three million is an important seaport as well as an industrial centre. The Americans, Russians, Japanese, Germans, French, Dutch and Belgians all find it worthwhile to have consulates general or consulates.

The Americans, Germans and French maintain cultural institutions. We have neither consulate nor British Council presence. Yours truly, C. V. EYRE, c/o Kotak Pos 310, Surabaya, Indonesia. November 26.

In hot water?

From Mr D. C. Burrows
Sir, Has informality gone too far in the Church of England? I have recently attended a baptism in the vicar produced a Thermos flask at the most solemn moment in the service with the words: "This is a coffee break. I am just filling the font with warm water."
Yours faithfully
D.C. BURROWS
Banks Farm House,
Burton Overy,
Leicestershire.
December 6.

Lack of presence

From Mr C. V. Eyre
Sir, Recently leaving Banjul, the Gambia, to work in Surabaya, I am struck by the contrast between British representation in the two cities. In Banjul, the small-town capital of the tiny country of a little over half a million people, we maintain a well-staffed British High Commission. In Surabaya, the second city of this nation of 140 million, there is no British representative.
Sited at the other end of Java from Jakarta, where an embassy is,

Matters of life and death

From Mr Brian Cummins

Sir, The novelist, David Hart (feature, December 5), should stick to fiction. Let me counter the product of his imagination with fact. I am a consultant neurosurgeon with some private practice. After six years' university, my postgraduate education lasted 12 years, when my service commitment to the NHS averaged 85 hours a week. My training, by surgeons of the highest skill, made me competent to perform some of the most complex operations in surgery. As a consultant, I work at least 60 hours each week for the NHS and so do my colleagues. I am paid for 35 hours, which is a gross misrepresentation.

In 1982 I personally performed for the NHS over 200 major brain and spinal operations. In private practice this would have earned me at least £100,000, cheap by international standards. I saw several hundred outpatients and attended many committee meetings, whose agenda revolved around the enhancement of our service, the necessity to control medical expenditure and the planning of a long-deferred new hospital.

It is my privilege to train the next generation of surgeons. This is the general pattern of consultant practice.

I have yet to find an insurance scheme which adequately covers prolonged disease or allows care in old age. The scum and scum of elderly in our wards are the minority of the aged community, who do their best to look after themselves. The children of the 85-year-olds are often in their sixties.

In the last year I have treated two refugees from the new Australian insurance system. Both were in their forties, both had cancer, both had had treatment in Australia before they came to us. I am sure that the "managers" there do not have to take life or death decisions; it is done for them.

In our hospital, it is usually the mains electricity which fails. Then our generators cut in, allowing me to operate in safety, without pause. There are few private hospitals which can safely cope with the major surgery routinely performed in NHS hospitals. Despite the absence of resident medical staff, adequate physiotherapy and sophisticated diagnostic imaging, the daily charges of the private-sector hospitals approximate to those of the NHS.

There is no shame to the NHS. There must be pride that the citizens of this country contribute to a service which, with all its faults, can treat the injured and the sick without knowledge of their income, provide shelter for the aged and treat the mentally infirm with tenderness. God help the party Mr Hart advises.
Yours,
BRIAN H. CUMMINS,
Evanscody, Hambrook,
Bristol, Avon.

Sphere of influence

From Dr Marion Gore
Sir, Your headline in Saturday's issue (December 3) states: "US tells Russia to keep out of the Middle East".

From *The Times Atlas of the World* it would appear that, as the bomber flies, the distance between Yerevan, capital of Soviet Armenia, and Beirut is less than half the distance between Key Largo, Florida, and St George's, Grenada.

Who is in whose back yard?
Yours faithfully,
MARION GORE,
24 Lawn Road, NW3.

GLC land reclamation

From Mr Leslie Lane
Sir, I sincerely hope that the Lea Valley Regional Park Authority will survive the impending abolition of the Greater London Council. This body was set up by Act of Parliament in 1967, on the initiative of the Civic Trust (of which I was then director). Its remit was to reclaim derelict land along the River Lea from the Thames to Ware in Hertfordshire. Its task is by no means completed.

Its finance is derived from rate precepts, of which I understand the GLC contributes 75 per cent. It is essential that the authorities' income should be maintained and if possible increased and the burden is not one which would be undertaken by riparian authorities.

The task is essentially a regional one which, like the duties of the Historic Buildings Department of the GLC, cannot be devolved and which needs to be funded from regional, not local, resources.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE LANE,
11 Creswick Walk, NW11.
November 22.

Plans for civil defence

From Mr Simon Turney

Sir, Mr Douglas Hurd's letter of December 7 on civil defence and planning assumptions lamentably fails to provide satisfactory answers to Mr Campbell's main criticisms (feature, December 6) of the Home Office. These criticisms centred on the seriously misleading and ambiguous nature of the new civil defence regulations, the hitherto inadequate contribution made by Government departments and the general ineptness of the Home Office as the lead department for civil defence.

Though the Secretary of State announced to the House of Commons, on August 7, 1980, the result of a comprehensive review of civil defence it has taken the Home Office over three years to produce new regulations which seek to match the state of preparedness then deemed by Government to be appropriate to the nation's require-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Doubts on democracy in Bangladesh

From Mr Peter Shore, MP for Bethnal Green and Stoney (Labour) and others

Sir, We are disturbed by recent events in Bangladesh and wish to note that the Queen's visit to that country was inopportune and another example of this Government's mishandling of foreign policy.

The visit of the Queen, presumably on the advice of her Majesty's Government, slotted very neatly into General Ershad's plans to obtain a semblance of democratic support for his repressive military regime.

A few days prior to the Queen's visit, the General eased martial law and announced a schedule for the holding of presidential and parliamentary elections. A few days after her visit, he unveiled the political party which he hoped would be the vehicle for his aspirations. The party is named, somewhat ironically, *Jano Dal* or People's Party.

Despite the Queen's seal of legitimacy, General Ershad's well-laid plans have been thrown into disarray by last week's substantial demonstrations in the major cities of Bangladesh. The demonstrators, who included almost all the country's best-known civilian politicians, knew from past experience

that they opposed General Ershad at risk to their lives.

As happened in February, Ershad met peaceful opposition with army bullets (even the Government admits it killed four unarmed demonstrators) and with the reimposition of martial law, the arrest of many political leaders, and a draconian 23-hour curfew. The demonstrators were opposing the stage-management of democracy which was implicit in Ershad's phased elections. By his response to them, the General has indicated the shallowness of his commitment to democratic norms and institutions.

Britain's involvement in many aspects of Bangladesh life is considerable; so too is its influence. May we ask that our Government, which rightly champions the cause of democracy in Poland and Argentina, should also support that cause in Bangladesh, where political parties have again been banned, whose Government is based upon the brute force of martial law?

Yours faithfully,
PETER SHORE,
SYDNEY BIDWELL,
IAN MIKARD,
ERNEST ROBERTS,
GEORGE ROBERTSON,
House of Commons,
December 7.

Prosecution by stores

From the Director of the Oxford Street Association

Sir, Greville Janner (December 2) must know that shopkeepers in London would be delighted to be rid of the burden of the private prosecution of alleged shop thieves. My members certainly feel that they have no alternative but to take private action as long as the Metropolitan Police refuse to operate a prosecution policy, in contrast to all other forces in the country.

This association, which includes Woolworth among its important members, has pressed three consecutive commissions on this point, the last occasion being as recently as November 11. I gather that now there may be no lack of will, but rather a shortage of qualified personnel in the legal department at Scotland Yard. A change of policy could therefore be implemented fairly quickly.

Prison crisis

From Professor Nigel Walker

Sir, Mr Rutherford's article, "Building up to a prison crisis", November 25) makes two objections to the new prison-building programme. The first is that it may not end the overcrowding because of the way in which prisoners are allocated (but allocation can be improved when space allows more flexibility).

Second, and more important, is the argument that the programme overestimates future needs, so that sentences will feel free to fill up surplus capacity. (At first sight this seems inconsistent with the first objection, but isn't quite).

The concealed assumption of the second objection is that we know the optimum level for the English prison population; and that it is less than - or at least no greater than - the present numbers. It would be nice if the argument that the programme overestimates future needs, so that sentences will feel free to fill up surplus capacity, (At first sight this seems inconsistent with the first objection, but isn't quite).

Yet we are told that 60 years ago Churchill "successfully embarked" on the course of economising in prison resources. The only sign of success which I can see is the very overcrowding about which everyone is rightly concerned.
I am &c,
NIGEL WALKER,
King's College,
Highbury Road,
November 25.

Sticking to the Bench

From Mr J. R. Spencer

Sir, Ex-Judge Bruce Campbell may be the first English judge to be sacked for smuggling whisky, but *The Times* (December 6) is wrong to say that "there is no precedent for the dismissal of an English judge". At least one exists in the removal of Judge William Ramsey, the Liverpool County Court judge, in 1851. *The Times*, incidentally, had a hand in it.

After receiving endless complaints about Judge Ramsey, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster held an enquiry which concluded - predictably, some would say - that there were no grounds for removing him from office.

The judge thereupon celebrated his non-dismissal by laying on a public banquet in his courthouse "in honour of the great principle of judicial independence, so long recklessly assailed in this town", at which he made a speech accusing the local newspapers of hounding his predecessor to his grave and

Your front page story in the same issue reported vandalism and looting in Luxembourg; while one mother is reported as saying "they just grabbed handfuls", the public prosecutor told of "shopkeepers stricken with fear".

In many parts of this country there are now recorded instances of shop thieves being as violent as football fans and more often. The majority are young. This is the real social problem to which our legislators should be addressing themselves rather than the regrettable 3,000 "old age pensioners" who last year pleaded, or were found, guilty of shop theft and who represented just 5 per cent of the total.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY SHEPHERD, Director,
The Oxford Street Association,
1st Floor, 49 Wellington Street,
Covent Garden, WC2.
December 2.

House conveyancing

From Dr David Gullick

Sir, Comparisons are odious, but sometimes helpful nevertheless. Buying a house may well be, for most of us, a very major transaction. But even house purchase is overshadowed by the importance of life and health.

Yet, as your features (August 8, 9, 10) and leader (August 10) of this summer clearly showed, the medical profession has no monopoly of treatment: nor did you, Sir, seem to think that it should. Contrary to popular misunderstanding, the First Medical Act, 1858, was not designed to create a closed shop for doctors; only to allow the patient to distinguish the orthodox from the rest.

Surely Mr Mitchell's Bill will do no more? Those who prefer the safety of orthodoxy can and will continue to engage a solicitor; the rest will exercise their freedom to go elsewhere; and in so doing will have much greater security - by assured indemnification - if their choice is ill advised, than do those who prefer alternative medicine, none of whose practitioners are by statute required to secure insurance against the ill consequences of negligent failure in either diagnosis or treatment.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GULLICK,
1 Heathrow Road,
Welwyn, Hertfordshire.

By-passing Council on Tribunals

From Dr Peter Kay

Sir, Your leader of December 5 rightly brought to notice the role of the Council on Tribunals.

The Council has indeed been handicapped by Government restrictions on its powers and budget. Indeed, although it was recognised in 1958 that inquiries were likely to cause as many problems as tribunals, most types of public inquiry were for many years excluded from the council's purview altogether (a restriction achieved by the dexterity of the parliamentary draughtsman after the Lord Chancellor had given the House an assurance to the contrary).

Yet it is also the case that the Council has displayed a toothlessness and remoteness beyond that which it might reasonably attribute to its slender resources.

To take one example, in 1974 the chairman of the council commented that the council "did not share the view that there was a rising sense of public anger with the way in which road inquiries are conducted". By the end of 1976 three such inquiries had experienced large-scale disruption (with many arrests) precisely because objectors had received no response to rational argument and could see no other way forward.

In 1978 the council allowed its name to be associated with the *Review of Highways Inquiries Procedures*. White Paper which, whilst making some useful changes, evaded (apparently as the Department of Transport's insistence) the two aspects of inquiry procedure which had caused most dispute - the non-provision of evening sittings and transcripts - and did little to clarify the extent to which objectors may challenge the need for a scheme.

The Council has failed, at the strategic level, to tackle the fundamental problems raised by the practice of ministers holding inquiries into their own proposals - a system which has been condemned as farcical for nearly 50 years. It has failed, too, at the day-to-day level, for it has been reduced to sating objectors that it does not have the resources to take up complaints about the conduct of individual inquiries (despite which the Department of Transport still issues objectors with a guidebook stating that the council will do this).

As a result the council is now largely ignored in this field, many such complaints in recent years having been referred instead to the Ombudsman.

Yours faithfully,
PETER KAY,
48 Park Avenue, N22.
December 7.

From Mrs E. M. M. Goriely

Sir, In your editorial (December 5) on the Council on Tribunals you advocate steps to reorganize tribunals into "fewer and stronger units". I hope that this is a call for multifunctional units, not for more widely spaced tribunals. It is easy to forget, in London, how expensive and time-consuming cross-country travel may be for the very people tribunals are supposed to assist.

A decade ago I appealed to the Council on Tribunals against a decision of the "local" Rating and Valuation Tribunal that it would not meet except in a remote town inaccessible to local ratepayers by public transport. The council decided in my favour and I should regret any plan for "rationalization" (as you put it) of this sort.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
MARY GORIELY,
Bwlch-gilian,
Llanfawr, Powys.
December 5.

Venetian music

From the President of the Royal Academy of Arts

Sir, "What about the music?" cries Bernard Levin in his splendid trumpet fanfare to *The Genius of Venice*. (Saturday, December 3).

What indeed. Nothing less than a Festival of Venetian Music to be presented at St. James's Church, Piccadilly, and St. George's Church, Hanover Square, from January 20 to February 2. Music and architecture to be enjoyed. Details from he knows where.

Yours etc,
HUGH CASSON, President,
Royal Academy of Arts,
Piccadilly, W1.

Local heritage

From Dr Hugh Ford

Sir, In this great era of new museums perhaps you will allow me the courtesy of your columns to suggest a National Museum of Roads and as an initial exhibit the last mile or so of the A10 that lies within Norfolk up to the Cambridgeshire boundary.

This unaffected and contorted stretch of main road contains all the outstanding features of our sadly vanishing main road system: it is very narrow, with many sharp bends, reversed camber, badly sited surface drains and sundry potholes. There are no unnecessary road signs, while under the seasonal layer of crushed sugar beet may be found the slippery and precocious metalised surface.

Unhindered by restrictions, the speed of passing traffic is equalled only by the pleasure boats on the adjacent river.

The preservation of this brief section of major trunk road, in what must surely be its original state, is a worthy reminder of the conditions with which our ancestors contended.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH FORD,
Brookdale,
Church End,
Sedgeford,
Near Hunstanton, Norfolk.

Great escapes to a haven of warmth



FOR
EVER
ENGLAND

A black and white illustration of a man in a military-style uniform, possibly a pilot or aviator, looking upwards with a determined expression. He is wearing a cap and has his right hand raised to his forehead. The background is dark and textured.

Fares: see Fare Deal column.
Recommended north coast hotels:
Half Moon in Montego Bay;
Plantation Inn and Jamaica Inn,
Ocho Rios; Trident in Port Antonio.
Flights: see Windward 149.
Sloane Street, London SW1X 9BZ
(01-730 7144).
Five hire car for 10 days: £242.66.
Dining out along the north coast
marginally less than London prices.
The Apple Restaurant, Estate rum is
still about £2 a bottle.
Most of the tourist attractions –
beaches, first-class hotels,
restaurants, entertainments – are
along the North Coast between
Negril and Port Antonio.
The region, described in the article,
and the south coast, have few
tourist facilities: neither are the
lines of communication entirely
dependable. Kingston is to be



FARE DEAL

But remember that as you need to go through Miami when travelling, for example, from Freeport to Montego Bay, you will use two flights. Thus your 10-flight pass gives a maximum of five destinations. If this is not enough, you can buy a second 5-flight pass.

Discounts

airlines to put plenty of discount deals on the market. But bear in mind that it will be difficult to get a seat during the peak month of December.

Most airlines are offering their discounts through Caribbean travel agents in Britain. You can locate these companies by looking through the advertisements in weekly newspapers such as *The Jamaican Week*, *Gleaner* or *West Indian World*. If you shop around you should have little difficulty getting hold

Here are some examples of discounts available at present:

Stratford Travel is selling consolidation fares with Air Florida to Kingston and Montego Bay via Miami. In December the return fare is £405; it falls to £299 in January before rising to £335 in February/March and £353 in April.

Nipponair is selling direct flights to Kingston for £439 up to Christmas and from £355

return from the end of the year until the end of March. From January until the end of April its return fare to Port of Spain is £370, Montserrat £384, Grenada £438, St Vincent £458, Bermuda £319, Nassau £359, Georgetown £448 and Antigua/Barbados/Lucia all £353.

The cheapest routing to the British-Virgin Islands is via St.

Finally, remember that you will need a visa for the United States if you travel via there and that includes San Juan.

Airlines: British Airways 01-370 5411; Air Florida 01-409 2862.
Agents: Stratford Travel Centre 01-519 4921; Nipponair 01-254 5788; Caribbean Travel 01-969 6230; Budget 01-741 8491; Hoffman Travel 01-328 3798.
Tour operators: Pegasus 01-370 5144; Tradewinds 01-734 1260; Kuoni 3 0305 885044.

at REID'S MADEIRA

Madeira is Europe's tropical island and for many visitors the legendary Reid's Hotel is Madeira.

Why not escape from the grips of winter and enjoy the sun and gentle climate or see Madeira and Reid's five gardens in full bloom - always at their best in April and May. But you can't wait until then. You can't wait to see them. Without leaving the hotel you can stroll, swim, dine, play tennis, have a picnic, spend the day in the garden, or enjoy the view from the hotel. You can walk in the magnificent scenery of this enchanted island.

With some 350 staff to ensure a standard of 300 guests you will experience a moment of time matched by few hotels. Crisp linen sheets are changed daily in the comfortable air conditioned rooms, and for everything on your mind you can dine in traditional or informal surroundings or offering French, Italian, Madeiran and Portuguese cuisine.

Yes, perhaps you should make this legend a reality - now.

FOR IMMEDIATE RESERVATIONS:
 ● Georges Hangartner, General Manager, Reid's Hotel, P.O. Box 401, P-5000, Funchal, Corvo, Madeira, Portugal, Tel. Funchal 23001 Telex 72139 Reid's P or ● H.R.T. - The Leading Hotels of the World, P.O. 01-383 3050 or ● Your Travel Agent


If you would like our brochure and further information please send the coupon to:

Reid's Hotel *****
 Reid's Hotel
 c/o 10 Friar Street, London EC4A 5QT
 NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

TWTG2

The ski area occupies several Austrian mountains, lying to the south and east of Innsbruck, capital of the Tyrol. It's a pretty spot with excellent skiing, although the lift system is not yet fully integrated.

The largest resorts are Mayrhofen and Zell-am-See, backed by a mass of smaller ones. On our trip we visited three of the best, Finkenbrunn, Stumm and Mayrhofen, all



The three resorts of Stumm, Finkenberg and Mayerhofen are available from Global Holidays. A week in Mayerhofen costs from £133 by air in bed and breakfast accommodation. A week at the Hotel Kramerwirt, half-board, costs from £225.

Other operators to this region include Thomson Wintersports, Thomas Cook, John Morgan, Blue Sky, Enterprise Holidays and Inghams.

WEST END TRAVEL
ISRAEL
LAND
OF SUNSHINE
AND HISTORY
Tel Aviv
Jerusalem - Haifa

Portrait of a Self-made City
Peter Newbold
 For a free copy of this revealing and
 informative study on Amsterdam, to-
 gether with our brochure on individual
 passports in the Amsterdam city walls or
 phone
Three 00 1, 24 Chester Chase,
London SW1X 7SD. 01-335 8678

**Jerusalem • Netanya
Haifa • Eilat**

Tiberias • Dead Sea

From 5 star hotels to
Kibbutz guest houses,
immediate rights to sandy
beaches • Israel, your ideal
destination, has it all.
Immediate confirmations.

**Phone 01-409 0630
or 01-629 8299**

for further details

West End Travel
Dept. 71
Baratz House
341 Oxford Street
London W1

Fly EL AL

Ca


KUONI

WATER PRICES.
STEED

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate
2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2

...ne cruise.
...ourney, no coach
...conveys the true
...e a cruise of its
...est river. 7, 8
...ast vineyards
...ountains,
...sides and
...panoramas
...and,
...my, France and Switzerland.

other line could
line and service
but the best
overnight
cars and
men



sauna.
gent quickly
ure —
line

Blue Cross Agency • Lower 48 • Marine Life
Tel: 01-42 18611 Home Tel: 2704 home & travel 01706

Name: _____
Address: _____
Tel: _____

718

Ames 18	3+	F/B	\$17.09	\$159
Ames 19	3+	M/B	\$17.09	\$163
Ames 20	3+	F/B	\$17.09	\$163
Ames 21	3+	M/B	\$17.09	\$139
Ames 22	3	M/B	\$22.25	-
Ames 23	4	S/C	\$13.99	\$179
Ames 24	3+	F/B	\$13.99	\$264
Ames 25	3+	S/C	\$13.99	-
Ames 26	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 27	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 28	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 29	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 30	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 31	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 32	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 33	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 34	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 35	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 36	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 37	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 38	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 39	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 40	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 41	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 42	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 43	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 44	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 45	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 46	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 47	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 48	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 49	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 50	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 51	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 52	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 53	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 54	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 55	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 56	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 57	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 58	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 59	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 60	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 61	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 62	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 63	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 64	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 65	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 66	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 67	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 68	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 69	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 70	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 71	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 72	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 73	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 74	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 75	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 76	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 77	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 78	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 79	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 80	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 81	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 82	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 83	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 84	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 85	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 86	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 87	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 88	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 89	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 90	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 91	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 92	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 93	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 94	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 95	3+	S/C	\$12.99	\$249
Ames 96	3+	S/C	\$12.99	

مَكْنَزٌ مِنَ الْأَصْلِ

TRAVEL/2

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Shopping list for the winter sails

Sometimes, I have to admit, crossing the Channel adds an unsought-for sense of adventure to a mid-winter break. I have survived some hair-raising ferry crossings, clinging to the gunwales of a bucking boat in the teeth of the tempest rather than daring to look below decks at others' sickly expressions.

On most routes, be reassured, such trials are a thing of the past: bigger, faster boats with better stabilizers limit the risks of discomfort, or at least bring it to an end more speedily, while uncertain sailors can look to cross by hovercraft, knowing that if it is really rough they will not take to the water.

Distrust of the crossing is the

only conceivable reason for taking winter breaks in Britain rather than France, but even in winter, the seas can be millpond placid. Cheap winter fares on the ferries provide every incentive to take family and car across to France out of season. Hotel prices in Britain (even for the most heavily promoted winter breaks) make it look as though French hoteliers and restaurateurs are running a perpetual winter sale.

While the days are short no one will wish to motor far, but there is no need in France the next good meal and comfortable hotel room are never far away.

Robin Young

Here, port by port, are some notes on possible destinations:

From Calais, Boulogne and Dunkerque

Arras (11 miles from Calais): A small and placid agricultural market town with a picturesque triangular and cobbled Grand-Place and agreeable walks by the lakes and along the double avenue of time travel to the south. The Grand Hotel (010 33 21 928453), an old coaching inn bang on the main road, has a serious dining room off its courtyard. The menus run from business lunches at 75 francs to the full degustation at 200.

Montreuil (24 miles from Boulogne): A charming walled town made all the more attractive by two excellent and contrasting restaurants. Among the poplars by the river below the town La Grenouillère (010 33 21 060722) is quaint, rustic and idyllic. M Gauthier's cooking is irresistibly delicious - à la carte at about 150 francs. In town the Château de Montreuil (010 33 21 060011) beautifully positioned in its own gardens, is a luxurious outpost of the Roux brothers' school of nouvelle cuisine. Rooms 400 francs, meals 150-210 francs.

From Dieppe and Le Havre

Arques-la-Bataille (five miles from Dieppe): Picturesque feudal ruins and a deep majestic forest. The Manoir d'Archeville (010 33 35 855016) is an excellent Logis de France from which to explore the region.

Britanny Ferries: Portsmouth-St Malo, Plymouth-Roscoff. Weekend breaks from £30. Five-day returns from £51 for car and two adults. Five-day Go-As-You-Pleasure car touring holidays from £102 a person. Hotels and chalets hotel touring holidays from £173 (four nights). Golfing breaks from £102 (long weekend). Seaside apartments from £57 a person a week, with car. Gîte (cottage) holidays with car from £21 a person a week. A five-day insurance included free on all winter sailings.

Hoverspeed: Dover-Boulogne, Dover-Calais. Sixty-hour mini-breaks from £35 return for car and two adults, five days from £52 for car and two adults.

P & O: Dover-Boulogne, Southampton-La Havre. Forty-eight hour returns with car from £36 a person; Go-As-You-Pleasure Normandy tours (minimum five nights) with half-board in France-Accueil hotels from £112.50 a person.

Sally the Viking Line: Ramsgate-Dunkerque. Sixty-hour stay from £48 for car and two adults. Car and up to five passengers £70 open return.

Seafair: Dover-Dunkerque/Calais; Folkestone-Calais/Boulogne; Newhaven-Dieppe; Weymouth-Cherbourg (resumes March). Weekend breaks, Calais or Boulogne from £28.50, Dieppe from £34.50. Townsend-Thoresen: Dover-Calais, Portsmouth/Southampton-Cherbourg/Le Havre. Weekenders by car from £23 a person, children free or half price. Sixty-hour returns from £23 for car and driver to Calais, £32 Cherbourg. Châteaux and water mill hotel tours from £50 each for four adults staying three nights.



Rustic charm: La Châtelaine at Montreuil, near Boulogne

Close by, at Verus, is La Bucherie (010 33 35 848310) which locals regard as a better restaurant than any of Dieppe's (menus 90-140 francs).

Marin-Eglise, famous for trout, has the pretty Auberge Clos Normand (010 33 35 827101) with its gardens on the banks of a chalk stream (rooms from 100 francs, meals similar).

La Bouille (just over 40 miles from either Dieppe or Le Havre): A favourite of Monet and the home of the Norman chateau which bears its name. Close to Robert-the-Devil's castle (now a waxworks), the forest of La Londe, the thirteenth-century church of Moul-neux, and the splendid ruins of Jumèges Abbey.

The St Pierre (010 33 35 238010) has fine views from its rooms (180-250 francs) and delicious menus (120-180 francs) in its restaurant.

Fécamp (40 miles from Dieppe, 25 from Le Havre): A hard-working port, worth a stop to visit the bizarre Benedictine distillery and the more solemn grandeur of the Holy Trinity church. Le Maritime (010 33 35 282171) is the best of the modern restaurants along the quay - you will fare better though at the Relais des Dalles (010 33 35 274183), Sassetot-le-Mauconduit (menus 45-115 francs).

Varengville (five miles from

Dieppe): A cliff-top church and chapel with stained glass by Georges Braque, who is buried here, a Lutyens house with rhododendrons, medieval manor, lighthouse and deep-banked lanes of the Norman coast. The Relais des Dalles (010 33 35 274183) is a light, readable book and although not for the specialist is packed with interesting facts with which to assail fellow experts.

A book for the beginner or someone who has passed the novice stage but is still picking up new skills is *How to be a Supergardener* by Alan Titchmarsh (Ward Lock, £8.95). This is an ideal gift for new house owners who are having to tackle a garden for the first time.

Far removed from such practical problems is *Private Gardens of France* by Anita Perre and Gabrielle van Zuylen (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £30). This book is strictly for pleasure and, with the growing popularity of visiting gardens, could add greatly to the enjoyment of trips to France.

There are few gardeners who can be called great but the description does apply to Gertrude Jekyll. She has been dead for many years but her knowledge lives on through her books, which are being reintroduced by Papermac (Macmillan paperback), *Wood and Garden* (£6.95) and *Gardens for Small Country Houses* (£7.95) are classics.

Garden societies fulfil a need for the specialist and those that exist cover almost the whole range of plants. Top of the list is the Royal Horticultural Society. Membership costs £14 a year plus an initial enrolment fee of £5, entitling the member to a ticket for the Chelsea Flower Show and visits to the regular shows held at Vincent Square. Details from the RHS, Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, London SW1 (01-834 4333).

Membership of the Royal National Rose Society offers good value at £7. Members are entitled to visit the Rose Trial Grounds near St Albans, Hertfordshire, and also receive a

St Vaast-la-Hougue (19 miles from Cherbourg): A fascinating fishing village, famous for oysters and atmosphere. The Hôtel France et Fuchias (010 33 33 544326) drips flowers in season, but provides simple rooms (from 80 francs) and good fresh farm-produce meals (menus 50-160 francs).

Valeignes (13 miles from Cherbourg): A dairy market town once known as the Norman Versailles but now principally famous for butter. The Friday market and the exceptionally good value Hôtel de l'Agriculture (010 33 33 400031), where you can get a four-course dinner for 40 francs and a room from 75 francs.

thatched with palms. Next door at the guard house, the cinéman plant and the copra factory. Red clay roads run past tattered singed under shady trees. The president's tortoise enclosure, once common among the plantation-owning "grands blancs", is the equivalent of the local deer-park.

On Praslin, the second largest island, and to make a waterfall of sound in the dense trees of the Vallée de Mai, jungle parkland protecting the *coco de mer* palm. The double nut of this soaring tree is omnipresent in island bric-a-brac. Shaped like a woman's pelvis, as the guidebooks put it, the nut's natural shape is sometimes augmented for souvenir purposes by a little judicious carving.

The Vallée de Mai is magnificent, but I came to tire of the pelvis-nut. An altogether finer sight, near one of Praslin's perfect beaches, was the spectacle of a former Seychelles minister, apparently feeling no pain at the loss of his cabinet post, slow-dancing with an ample lady pressed close to his bare chest at the Laurier Bar's Saturday disco.

By the dancefloor a band not destined for fame bashed out lyrics evidently of its own composition while outside children scrambled in shadowy corners and grannies chattered on the lawn late into the moonlight.

Leslie Plummer

Travel notes

Fares: These range from British Airways via Nairobi first-class return £2,248 to British Caledonian Apex return £588. Packages: Wings £560 bed and breakfast for seven nights; Kuone island-hopper, two weeks £936 half-board. Speedbird sometimes offers three weeks for price of two. Better hotels half-board double £50-£80 nightly, smaller hotels and guesthouses £18-£50. Self-catering small house £250 weekly. Transport: Car hire from £18 daily for small Jeep-like Moke. Buses and taxis good with controlled prices. Return air fare Mahe to second-largest island, Praslin, £22 for 15-minute flight. Food: Creole dishes, smoked and tartare fish and palmiste salad excellent. Meals £5-£20 per person. Souvenirs: Fine shells, some decent batik.

Packs: Shorts, T-shirts and flip-flops suffice. Trousers required only for certain restaurants and discos. Sports gear and bicycles widely available for hire. Information: Seychelles Tourist Board, 4th Floor, 50 Conduit Street, London W1 (01-439 9699).

IN THE GARDEN

Suitable gifts to plant under a tree



Gift crop: Cassette hose (left), cold frame, mower, shredder, pocket pruner

There are many watering systems on the market and one I tried successfully was the Inhome Cassette Hose. It is a double-layered hose with outer and inner tube, does not kink and is easy to store. At garden centres or from Inhome, Sharnston Road, Manchester M22 4TH (061 945 2646).

Among many small quality tools on the market is the Wilkinson Sword Pocket Pruner at £6.95, which is ideal to carry round the garden to snip at offending branches. The Deluxe Sword Pruner at £15.95 is a more sturdy tool designed for the full range of pruning.

Wilkinson also markets a stainless steel spade covered by so many gardeners, not surprisingly since the work becomes so much easier with such a quality tool. It is priced at £35 but this varies from place to place, so it is worth shopping around. Spear and Jackson, another quality manufacturer, is introducing a lawn mower range, I like the look of the Spearmo

number of the society's publications. Details from the RNRS, Chiswell Green, St Albans (56 50461).

There are also specialist societies dealing with individual flowers such as heathers, iris, house plants and pelargoniums. I am president of the British Pelargonium and Geranium Society and of course have some love for these plants, which give much pleasure throughout the year both inside and outdoors. Write to me at *The Times* if you are interested in joining.

Garden tools and equipment provide a vast range from which to choose gifts. One new device on the market designed to make the perennial task of weed killing easier is the Murphy Tumbleweeder, a 39in weeding stick with a cartridge of Tumbleweed attached. It is available from most garden centres at £9.95.

Problems of keeping the garden watered were brought home once again this year.

DRINK

Bizarre dealings in the Burgundian sale room

Charity wine auctions are now held all over the world, but one of the longest established, and certainly the most bizarre, must be Burgundy's Hospices de Beaune, which is held every year on the third Sunday in November in the medieval fortified town of Beaune.

The original hospice, the Hôtel Dieu, was founded in 1443 by Nicolas Rolin, chancellor to the Duke of Burgundy, and his wife Guigone de Salins. (It is now no longer a hospital but a museum.) Beaune's other great charitable institution, the Hospice de la Charité (now an old people's home), was set up two centuries later, but it was not until 1859 that the first public sale was held. Like many other old European charitable institutions they were endowed with money and vineyards, and it is the grapes from the latter that provide the wines for the Hospices auction.

Time and tradition have turned the sale into an extraordinary spectacle. First-time visitors who are used to the rapid, formal style of London's wine auctioneers are amazed by the length, noise and colour of the proceedings, and a seat there can at times be better than one in the front row at the Comédie Française.

Appropriately enough the presidents of this year's sale were not the usual ambassadors or civic dignitaries but two well-known French comic actors who put on a stirring performance for the Burgundians, reporters and film crews packed into the auction room.

Outsiders could easily dismiss the Hospices sale as a tedious, tiresome event this year, for example, it took five and a half hours to knock down just 87 lots - a feat that Christie's in London could have executed in half an hour. But

such criticism would be to forget that the sale is the big Beaune event of the year and the Beaunois are obviously determined to make the most of it.

But there is also a serious side to it all, and although the high prices at this charity sale (19 per cent up for the 1983 red wines and 28 per cent up for the 1983 whites) no longer reflect the market price of the new vintage they do nonetheless act as a barometer. The sale also presents a unique opportunity for the Beaunois and others to compare and discuss Burgundy's latest vintage, even though the Hospices wines are then barely two months old.

As André Gagey, the charming and much-respected head of the traditional firm of Louis Jadot, pointed out, it is still too early to make a definitive judgment on the 1983 wines. But even so he felt that some of the 1983 reds would be "exceptionally good" and that some of the very best could perhaps even be compared to the legendary 1949 vintage. He was not quite so enthusiastic about the 1983 whites for he likened this "big, full, strong vintage" to the robust ones from 1964.

As usual we will all have to wait and see what this vintage will eventually bring. But in the meantime why not keep your spirits up with one of Maison Jadot's latest releases - the charming and velvety 1982 Bourgogne Rouge, Réserve des Jacobins, whose fresh raspberry-redolent taste is a delight (Victoria Wine £4.39). Equally good is Jadot's 1978 Bourgogne Blanc, Réserve des Jacobins, made exclusively from the Chardonnay grape - a bargain at £4.59 from Victoria Wine.

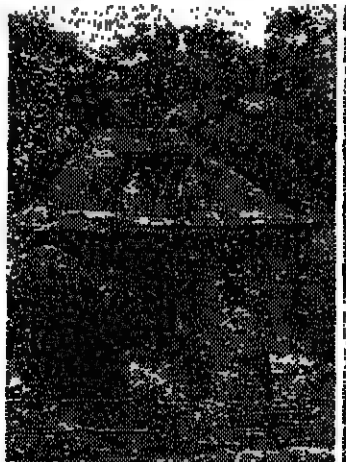
Jane MacQuitty

Paradise survives tourist onslaught

Few things are more miraculous than an island, rising suddenly in the midst of a vast southern sea. An expanse of moving ocean presses in on a tiny tropical land and aloft the traveller prays that the dread forces of ABTA, IATA and AITO have failed; that the place will not turn out to be another "professional" paradise. For the hard truth is that whatever the romantic literature of travel may say, 10 days' confinement on a green but sanitized island can be a hell of monotony.

Several days and several islands later, we were unanimous. A decade of tourism had not violated the Seychelles or the Seychellois; and after walking, eating, talking, driving and swimming our way round these Indian Ocean fragments we were not bored.

There were palm trees to sit under with the coconut-toddy-drinking local fishermen, but also politics to talk, in this meeting ground of socialism and paradise. There were white beaches to lie on, but also



Homely scenes: A typical Seychellois house and peasant woman

soldiers to watch, even here in one of the safest - if most expensive - places in the world for travellers.

There are other things to do too. At the ends of hotel driveways on the main island of Mahé brightly dressed young ladies sometimes lurk for purposes other than the study of the lush vegetation. In the Pirates' Arms on Independence Avenue the ladies can also be seen, mixing with diplomats, politicians, businessmen and the expatriate floissam of the tropics.

But this is unfair. The Seychelles are not fleshpots, even if marriage here seems to many an eccentricity. "It is no insult to be called a bastard in the Seychelles", one official told me. "At least, 50 per cent of us



are." At one time the Catholic Church baptized illegitimate children on Fridays and legitimate children on Sundays.

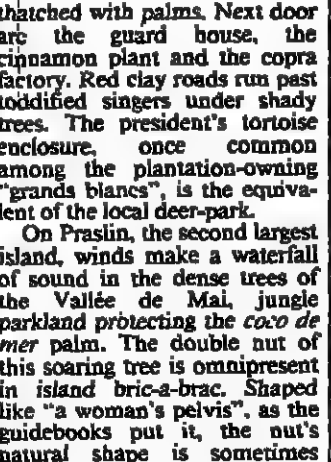
The town of Victoria revolves around its clock tower and colonial courthouse against a backdrop of steep green hills. It has a tiny museum, a tiny library whose Carnegie donors might be intrigued by the generous post-revolution stocks of Marxist thought, and enough good restaurants to put Sri Lanka, across the water, to shame. We ate fruit-bat stew (very good), octopus curry and smoked fish at the establishment of the inevitable German who came, saw and stayed.

In the market sharks' jaws and shells are sold along with the vegetables amid throngs of beautifully dressed schoolchildren, uniformed Young Pioneers and stringy old ladies in immaculate print frocks.

The beauty of the Seychelles is their variety. Granite and coral islands, 96 to 110 of them "depending on the tide", allow for desert isles, mountain rain forests and flat plantation land. Generally the more remote the island, the more untouched it is. A week from Mahe by boat giant tortoises bask in the giant lagoon of Aldabra.

The people are a mix too: Descendants of French and British colonists, African slaves, and Chinese and Indian labourers and merchants. The shops of the latter still line Victoria's main commercial street.

Mahe encompasses all these features, its mixture of people concentrated in the north and to the south wild rocky shores on which the ocean smashes in a high wind.



Fifteen minutes by air from Mahe, then half-an-hour onward by sailboat, is La Digue, an island of rocky outcrops and small pink orchids where President Albert René has his shuttered country house,

thatched with palms. Next door at the guard house, the cinéman plant and the copra factory. Red clay roads run past tattered singed under shady trees. The president's tortoise enclosure, once common among the plantation-owning "grands blancs", is the equivalent of the local deer-park.

On Praslin, the second largest island, and to make a waterfall of sound in the dense trees of the Vallée de Mai, jungle parkland protecting the *coco de mer* palm. The double nut of this soaring tree is omnipresent in island bric-a-brac. Shaped like a woman's pelvis, as the guidebooks put it, the nut's natural shape is sometimes augmented for souvenir purposes by a little judicious carving.

The Vallée de Mai is magnificent, but I came to tire of the pelvis-nut. An altogether finer sight, near one of Praslin's perfect beaches, was the spectacle of a former Seychelles minister, apparently feeling no pain at the loss of his cabinet post, slow-dancing with an ample lady pressed close to his bare chest at the Laurier Bar's Saturday disco.

By the dancefloor a band not destined for fame bashed out lyrics evidently of its own composition while outside children scrambled in shadowy corners and grannies chattered on the lawn late into the moonlight.

Leslie Plummer

TOP SKIING VALUE IN AUSTRIA, FRANCE, SWITZERLAND

Phone or write today for the Peter Stuyvesant Travel 83/84 Winter Sports Brochure. So much more for your money when you choose from our self-catering apartments, or first class hotels, or club holidays. Prices start from as little as £95 for seven days.

ST MORITZ, WENGEN, Gstaad, Zell am See: prices from £194 for seven days.

LA PLAGNE, France: prices from £95 for seven days.

ANZERE, CHAMPERY, DAVOS, SAN BERNADINO, VERBIER, Switzerland: club holidays from £199 for seven days (including, ski pass and ski lessons, plus much more).

ASTA/ATOL 1517

PHONE DIRECT

PETER STUYVESANT TRAVEL

01-631 3278

35 Alfred Place, London, WC1E 7D

"When you plant a vineyard, you make a marriage. Mine has given me such pleasure, I have remained faithful for sixty years."



THE NAME of Baron Philippe de Rothschild is legendary; his understanding of wine formidable. It is at his insistence that we bring MOËT & CHANDON to your attention. The range is vintage claret - full, round, fruity and smooth. The blanc is dry, light and fresh. Both bear more than the commendation of the Baron. He has judged them worthy to bear his name.

Philippe de Rothschild

Redskin would be up the creek without it.

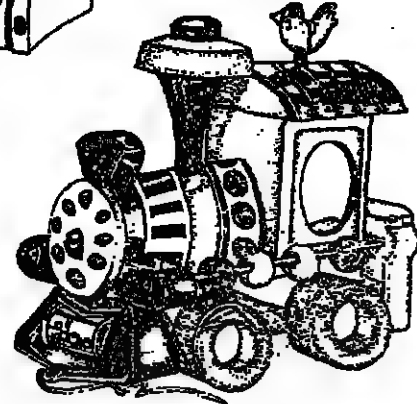
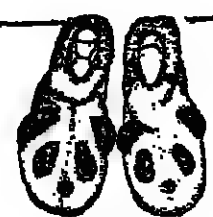
No.7 REDSKIN
in a series
2 parts bourbon
1 part dry vermouth
2 dashes ANGOSTURA
Stir with crushed ice and strain into a cocktail glass.



ANGOSTURA aromatic bitters
Put a dash in your cocktails tonight.

... VALUES on presents for children

100 chain-store choices to toy with



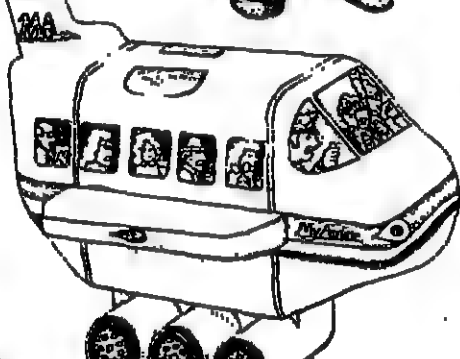
Small and beautiful: Wendy house (12), slippers (18), night light (15), locomotive (11)

UNDER FIVES

- 1 Big Chunky Chug-Chug see-through locomotive, with appropriate sound, £5.99, Debenhams.
- 2 Large fluffy grey seal, made in Israel, £12.99, Debenhams.
- 3 Brightly coloured wooden geometric sorting board, with shapes and pegs to fit into holes, by Plan Toys, £4.95, John Lewis.
- 4 Outfit by Cheryl Quality Playthings, suitable for three to five years, £12.99, John Lewis.
- 5 Nurse's outfit by Cheryl Quality Playthings, £7.95, suitable for three to five years, John Lewis.
- 6 Kinder tumbler with real skin top, made in China; wooden, £2.95, John Lewis.

FIVE TO EIGHT

- 1 Highly popular this year are the Action Man Action Force figures by Palitoy; the force grows into a complete battleground with tanks, space weapons, goodies and baddies; Mutt, one of the enemies, costs £1.80, most department stores.
- 2 Star Wars figures, one of last year's most popular items, are still going strong, £1.35 each, John Lewis and other stores.
- 3 The bright red Raleigh Apple Bike is designed primarily for girls in this age group, both saddle and handlebars adjustable, about £59, Debenhams and Raleighstockists.
- 4 For little girls who like to clown around at bedtime, Mothercare have some adorable pyjamas, with neck ruff, in poly cotton, with a spotted design, £4.50.
- 5 Hours of fun and an unending stream of winnings can be guaranteed with a Golden Jackpot slot machine, by Waco, £29.95, Debenhams.
- 6 The ever-popular Rupert Bear features in a pack of five stories; £2.99, pack of six fairy stories, same price, Marks and Spencer.
- 7 My Airline is a white plastic aeroplane containing compartments for storing snacks and drinks, with wipe-clean air tickets, paper napkins, plates, cups, cutlery, trays, air-stewardess cap and identity badge, measures 21cm by 17cm, £12.95, Woolworth.
- 8 The Fisher Price cassette recorder uses standard cassettes. Ideal for preventing your own being ruined, about £24.95, Woolworth and department stores.
- 9 To ensure a quiet night for dolls, Mothercare have a basket crib complete with frilly pillow, quilt and valance, £13.95.
- 10 Calculators used to be very serious affairs, but now Snoopy has entered on the scene, and his calculator is available in yellow, pink or white, £4.95, Boots.
- 11 The House Martin post-office set contains a pay telephone, letter box, service counter, plastic coins, postage stamps, air mail stickers, vehicle tax discs, recorded delivery notes, postal orders; easy to assemble, £5.95, Boots.
- 12 For lazy days in the garden, a doll's garden chair in wood and red canvas, folds away, 60cm high, £3.50, Habitat.
- 13 Magic Slate, where drawings and numbers easily disappear, by Jakar, £1.85, from John Lewis.
- 14 Beatrix Potter furry figures for an enthusiast! Mr. Jeremy Fisher costs £18.95, House of Fraser.
- 15 No child will be able to say he's sick as a parrot with the Merrythought green and yellow cloth parrot on a swing, £7.50, House of Fraser and department stores.
- 16 Best Friends rag dolls, wearing check dresses and cheeky expressions, £3.99 to £12.99, depending on size, House of Fraser.
- 17 Battery-operated attacking robot, made in Japan, about £9.95, House of Fraser and department stores.
- 18 The Escor wooden roundabout is beautifully made (in Britain), and would delight any child intrigued by fairgrounds, £12.95, House of Fraser.
- 19 The Chroma special agent pen writes in invisible ink, 70p, most department stores.
- 20 The Auto Scooter, a new idea this year, consists of two fairground dodgem cars with flashing lights, that work on any surface, £4.99 the pair, Debenhams.
- 21 There is a good selection of dressing-up outfits this year for the five to eight age group: Cheryl have Superman and Batman outfits, £8.95, a witch's outfit, £2.95, policeman's uniform, £11.50, all British made, John Lewis.
- 22 John Lewis also has horrible masks, £7.50 each - expensive, but they last for years, and neither children nor adults ever seem to grow out of them. Much nicer but



Drawings by Jill Field

War and peace: Mutt, one of the Action Force figures (1), and My Airline (7), a gentle introduction to flying

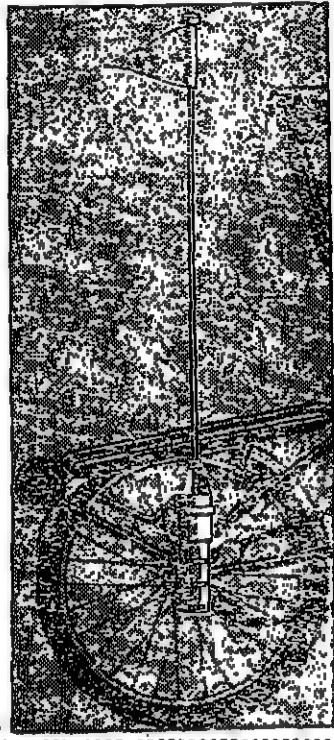
EIGHT TO ELEVEN

- 1 Logo Technik sets for space-age fun, include a new design for a rocket, suitable for nine years upwards, from £11.85, Debenhams and other stores.
- 2 For the fashion-conscious Milton Bradley Fashion Wheel contains all the latest fashions, including cravats, scarves, paper and felt, instructions, £9.99 to £9.50, Debenhams.
- 3 Pocket macro-telescope, by Thomas Sather Science, £1.75, John Lewis.
- 4 Pac-man board game is a family version of the popular video and arcade game; you race the hungry Pac-man and watch him open and shut his mouth, £5.95, John Lewis and most stores.
- 5 For snooker fans, Table Top snooker will give an idea of the real game, measures 36in by 18in, £14.95, John Lewis.
- 6 Waddington's Card Trick Collection, includes a 32-page booklet explaining all secrets, good fun for the Christmas holidays, £2.45, John Lewis and most stores.
- 7 Silk-screen printing set contains aqueegee, knife, 15 sheets of paper, calico, colours, accessories and protective plastic apron, £15.95, Habitat.
- 8 Eureka Battleships is an electronic version of the traditional game, good fun for all the family over Christmas and beyond, £25.95, Woolworth.
- 9 Concise Oxford Dictionary of Ballet, a sensible, non-patronizing book for all intrigued by this art, £5.95, W. H. Smith and most large bookshops.
- 10 The answer to that plaintive cry over Christmas holidays, What Can I Do today? lists dozens of exciting projects, published by Purnell, £3.50, from most stores.
- 11 A well-produced version of a classic, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, £1.75, Marks and Spencer.
- 12 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Celebrated Cases of Sherlock Holmes, £3.99, Marks and Spencer.
- 13 With the BMX craze sweeping the country, Raleigh has come into the market with a reasonably priced edition of their new bikes. They include Super Tuff, £150, Mag Burner, £120, Night Burner, £110, Super Burner, £115, from all Raleigh stockists.
- 14 Essential BMX gear: helmet £15.50, goggles £5.50, gloves £2.50, jacket £15, trousers £22, Raleigh stockists.
- 15 For girls, the Raleigh pink Bianca bike costs £75.
- 16 Seamed drawer liners in wild rose or apple blossom, for the conscious children, £1.99 British Home Stores.
- 17 Grown-up stationery items are always popular with this age group; yellow and pink staplers, £2.50, W. H. Smith.
- 18 Postcard album, to keep holiday postcards, £1, W. H. Smith.
- 19 The Fame make-up and disguise kit contains lipgloss, glittery make-up and nail varnish, serapians, £7.45, Boots.
- 20 The Crayola Design Kit contains all the instruments and equipment needed to design cars, tanks, aeroplanes, £7.45, Boots.
- 21 College Set comprising fountain pen, ruler, set square, felt tip pen, compass, £2.75, Boots.
- 22 Make Your Own Noah's Ark, a book that becomes an activity for the patient and nimble-fingered (all you need, it says, is scissors and glue), published by Angus and Robertson, £4.95, from Boots and most stores and bookshops.
- 23 For dance-mad girls, a lede and cerise leotard, £3.95 to £4.50, matching exercise skirt, £2.50, Mothercare.
- 24 Meccano is enjoying a revival - and a new look: choose from a range going from single vehicle packs to motorized models according to the skill and patience of the young engineer; action packs from £2.50, motorized packs from £9.50, by Palitoy, from most stores.
- 25 For potential Mensa members, the Book of Puzzles and Brain-teasers, 99p, Marks & Spencer.

Fame make-up kit (19)

ELEVEN TO FOURTEEN

- 1 The Royal Year by Tim Graham describes clearly in the life of the Royal Family, £1.99, Guinness Sporting Fairs, for those who want to be sure, £3.25, Marks and Spencer.
- 2 The new Lighter bicycle rear light is a long tube with a permanent attached; the flexible tube lights up from top to bottom, emitting a powerful orange glow which means the cyclist can be seen from any angle. In two sizes, 18in and 24in, £4.99 or £5.49, Woolworth.
- 3 For a teenage bedroom, corduroy bean bag in dark brown, with fire-retardant beads, £19.95; brass-plated table lamp with shell-shape shade, £29.95, Boots.
- 4 Torville and Dean by John Hennessy, best-selling biography of the amazing skating stars, published by David and Charles, £7.95, from Boots, W. H. Smith and other stores.
- 5 Blue, yellow and red plastic bath and shower cap, £1.45, Boots.
- 6 Steam-styling brush, with flexible bristles to prevent tangling, £8.95, Boots.
- 7 Silver-plated tiny photo frames, set of three, £6.99, Marks and Spencer.
- 8 Laura Ashley Eau de Toilette, 100, £2.95.
- 9 Laura Ashley bone china pomander, £8.40.
- 10 The 1984 Journal has big cream pages and a cream cover, pretty and functional, £8.50, Boots.
- 11 Complete Grimm's Fairy Tales, grown-up versions of children's favourites, published by Routledge and Kegan Paul, £4.95, from W. H. Smith and most bookshops.
- 12 Most older children are fascinated by unusual stationery; this year, W. H. Smith's has some attractive stationery drawers full of paper and envelopes, £3.99.
- 13 Cassette Carousel to hold 20-32 cassettes, puts them out of danger of being trodden underfoot in teenage bedrooms, £2.75, W. H. Smith.
- 14 Liqueur makers in 100 per cent wool, in teen shades of grey and cream, £4.99, Marks and Spencer.
- 15 To put work on a pink (or blue) cloud, Smith's have some classic cloud and umbrella designs, £1.99 each.
- 16 Silver Reed Silverette typewriter, £37.50, other models £39.50 to £43.50, W. H. Smith.
- 17 Giant Springbok Compass, with Safety first for bicyclists (2)



pen and technical attachments, for serious geometers, £4.25, W. H. Smith.

Experts expound on the proof of puddings

Welcome to our Great Pudding Hunt. Traditional Christmas takes so much time to prepare that fewer people every year are willing to shred and chop and stir and boil when there are so many ready-prepared alternatives. But can a shop-bought pudding or cake ever match the home-made? The ingredients sound good, the price offers good value in terms of time saved. Could you possibly pass them off as your own? We decided to find out.

First we summoned the puddings. We chose two smart stores (Fortnum & Mason and Harrods) three chain stores (Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury and Tesco), two nationally distributed brands (Mrs Peck's and Robertson's), and one guardian of our heritage (The National Trust).

Then we invited our jury. Glyn Christian, the BBC's *Breakfast Time* cook and Shona Crawford Poole, his counterpart at *The Times*, were our experts. Robin Young, *Times* writer, diner and winner and member of the British Academy of Gastronomes was our token diner-out and Amy Franks, star of *Alan Franks's Diary* (Wednesday Page) was our token five-year-old.

We assembled at the Dorchester, where Swiss cook Anton Mosmamm had arranged to have our puddings boiled for the recommended times - anything from one to four hours. He had given each one a code letter and made charts so that the jury could give marks for appearance, taste, texture, smell, quality, value for money, package and general impression. All tremendously professional for, as Mr Mosmamm said, one has to be fair to the puddings, a remark which had more than a touch of "Alice-pudding, pudding-Alice" about it.

Amy cut the first slice - a wedge that would probably have capsized her had she eaten it all, but she obviously thought this whole exercise was not for the faint-hearted, and anyway she had already told us that the best things about Christmas were the presents, the turkey and the pudding. In that order. One wondered about the size of turkey she had in mind.

Her fellow jurors appraised and sniffed and forked and chewed and scribbled on their charts. They were not told until the end of the tasting which



Pensive: from left, Shona Crawford Poole, Amy Franks, Glyn Christian, Robin Young

pudding was which, but for ease of comparison, they are now listed in alphabetical order.

Fortnum & Mason: "Oh, Harrods!" GC said with the look of a man who has bitten into an unripe persimmon. "It tastes of artificial lemon essence and too much of it. It's got a household cleaner taste."

"Coniferous", SCP said. "Polish", RY said (as in Mr Sheen, not Pope John Paul). "Horrible", said Amy. On present performance I fear she is unlikely to make the Diplomatic Corps, but then neither would her fellow jurors.

Harrods: Amy and RY were immediately impressed by the appearance - an amazing high gloss that would not have looked out of place on a ship's hull. It reminded GC of his mother's sago-based puddings in New Zealand: SCP found it "repulsive". "Puddings should glisten not shine."

GC liked the colour, dark on the outside and lighter in the middle. "The colour has come from cooking not gravy brown-ing." The flavour was "not all that bad, although the bits of peel are very intrusive. Texture a little disappointing because I like a bit of a chew."

SCP thought the sticky texture cloying; RY found it too sweet and heavily citrus. Amy refused to be influenced by all this expert opinion and pronounced it very good and much better than being at school.

Mrs Peck's: Rather a non-event. GC liked the chewy texture and "didn't mind" the taste. RY thought it boring. Amy made no comment which so disconcerted GC and SCP that they embarked on a long debate on Puddings Throughout History, or Pudding: Its Social Relevance. Unimpressed by such erudition, Amy made it clear that we ought to get back to the job in hand.

National Trust: SCP liked the round shape but was not impressed by the uneven colour and thought the pudding too dry. GC rather liked bits of it "but it doesn't have the satisfyingly long aftertaste that all rich foods should have. It has rather a cloyant appearance, but that comes from having been boiled in a cloth. If we were doing this 100 years ago we wouldn't think that very unusual - we are just showing how young we all are."

The only member of the party who could possibly be thus described declared unequivocally that she didn't like the outside and as the considered opinion of a five-year-old is the most effective way of ruining any festive meal, further argument was pointless.

Robertson's: SCP approved the nuts but thought it looked too much like an ordinary

St Michael: Immediate approval of its roundness and aroma. "That smells more like it", SCP said, "good and spicy." RY: "It looks expensive - the first one with cherries and nuts I can taste - a lovely after flavour." Amy, halfway through chewing a whole cherry, waved her spoon imperiously and said "I prefer that one (Harrods) but like that one (Marks & Spencer) just as much."

Tesco: GC: "I had high hopes of this one - it looks terrific. I want a pudding to be high so that people can focus on it after a large meal. I would believe that it was home-made - even with the slight imbalance of the molasses. It would be all right if it was a pudding." (Shrieks of horror until he explained that he served an orange-flavoured zabaglione with his puddings.) SCP: "Undistinguished but in the tradition of Christmas pudding." RY marked it among his top three and when he heard the price thought it excellent value. Amy, flagging but determined to contribute: "Not very tasty."

So, with a remarkable degree of unanimity, the cooks, the diner-out and the Young Person's Right to be Heard representative decided that the pudding they would all like to see on their tables this Christmas was by Marks & Spencer.

The professional tasters put Tesco second and Harrods third, while the rising starlet stuck to her preference for the gloss of Harrods. Future admirers would do well to start saving now.



Cutting comments that really take the cake

Six of the pudding-makers we chose also offer cakes, so we asked Shona Crawford Poole to represent the cooks and Robin Young the customers in a second tasting. Appearance was more important than in the puddings (which could be dressed up with holly and set alight to cover inadequacies) and smell, taste and texture of cake, marzipan and icing were all taken into consideration.

Fortnum & Mason (3lb cake including decoration to order £11). RY liked the decoration; SCP thought it lurid. Both found the smell very synthetic. Their joint marks out of 20 for taste: 7.

Harrods (4lb, £10.50). Appearance was prohibited as "the whole farmyard - ribbon, Santa, snow, holly, reindeer, Christmas tree." It was the hardest to cut, but the slices remained whole. The smell was surprisingly almondly, but the cake was a good colour, very fruity with visible nuts. Marks for taste: 14.

National Trust (3lb 12oz, £8.50). Both tasters disapproved of the plastic decoration. "I'd take it off, like taking the buttons off a cheap frock", SCP said. Both thought it lacked interest although icing texture was light and thick and marzipan tasted as it should. Alcohol content detectable. Marks for taste: 10.

Sainsbury (3lb 8oz, £6.45). Purple ribbon thought to be elegant by SCP, funereal by RY. Smell fruity and nice, marzipan "a bit lurid". The taste was disappointing: "The marzipan was bitter with almond essence (SCP)". "I would actually consider taking it back to the shop and asking if it should be like that" (RY). Marks for taste: 0.

Tesco (3lb 8oz, £5.99). Decorated with a "wonderfully tasteless Father Christmas". The Shops' showpieces: from top, Fortnum & Mason, Harrods, Marks & Spencer, National Trust, Sainsbury, Tesco.

The widest selection of contemporary British glass in the world.

Now available at COLERIDGE 192 Piccadilly between Simpsons and Fortnams

Also at COLERIDGE OF HIGHGATE 80 Highgate St London N6

Thursday's child full of power and promise

Stockhausen: *Donnerstag aus Licht* Various performers/Stockhausen (Deutsche Grammophon 2740 272, four records)

There can be no doubt that records exist, like books, to publish what is important, achieved among us, and Stockhausen's seven-opera cycle *Licht* looks like being one of the most remarkable achievements of this fin de siècle. *Donnerstag* ("Thursday's entertainment"), is the only part of the heptology yet completed, and no doubt its meaning will be clearer and richer when it can be understood in context. What is already very evident, though, is that Stockhausen has the inventive power and the long-term planning to sustain such an enterprise. He also has the capacity for bewildering variety. *Donnerstag* includes everything from great ceremonial fanfares to tentative pieces of vocal chamber music, from a trumpet concerto to vast choral frescoes. It even goes all the way from genius to insanity.

Also recommended: *Francis Symphony* Orchestra National/Grammophon (Deutsche Grammophon 2532 050, compact disc 400 070-2)

This has been the year of the compact disc, whose clarity is a special benefit in letting one hear Bernstein's driving, impassioned live performance of a work now enjoying welcome rehabilitation. *Mozart: Così fan tutti* Soloists, Vienna Philharmonic/Muti (EMI SLS 1435163, three records)

A festival opera: the recording was made at Salzburg last year, and it captures the glamour of huge talents working at a keen pitch of excitement and understanding. It is also intimate drama in magnificent song, the cast being led by Margaret Marshall, Agnes Baltsa and Francisco Araiza.

Boulez: *Pli selon pli* Bryn-Julson, BBC Symphony Orchestra/Boulez (Erato NUM 75050, two records)

Pli selon pli is a musical voyage into the mind of Mallarmé, but it is also the biggest thing Boulez has yet done: a constellation of five movements for soprano, chiming percussion and orchestra lasting well over an hour. The new recording lingers over its sumptuous beauties.

Wagner: *Tristan und Isolde* Soloists, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra/Bernstein (Philips 6768 091, five records)

The Christmas present for anti-Wagnerians, since anyone else

Critic's choice

Paul Griffiths

will already have it, and even the most convinced Wagnerophile may be persuaded by Bernstein's wholesale engagement in the score, as well as by Hildegard Behrens's vividly active Isolde. Pater Hoffman as the golden Tristan exists at the moment, but the main interest is in the soprano and in the deeply felt accompaniment.

Brahms: *21 Hungarian Dances* Vienna Philharmonic/Abbado (Deutsche Grammophon 2560 100) Celebrating the other great anniversary of the year, The Vienna Philharmonic have a ball, and Abbado takes his task seriously enough for this to be a justifiable choice against all the other volumes of the Deutsche Grammophon Brahms Edition.

Also recommended: *Richard Strauss: Four Last Songs* Norman/Musica (Deutsche Grammophon 2532 050, compact disc 400 070-2)

Not since Kirsten Flagstad has there been a voice on record to bring the full vigour and richness of the lower register to support and charge the extraordinary sense of suspended time and texture within Strauss's *Four Last Songs*. Jessye Norman can do this, and much more. Her response to the songs is distinctive and penetrating, as she fuses sensuous sound quality with acute musical intelligence, judging the precise pressure and colour of each word and shaping each phrase with Kurt Masur's live, translucent orchestra.

The six orchestral songs on the other side include a "Zueignung" of rare internal repose, a "Wienlied" of long, sustained half-tone, and a vibrant, rapt "Cacilie".

Also recommended: *Fauré: Mélodies von Stade/Collard* (EMI ASD 4183)

Suggestion, allusion and nuance oscillate vividly between the highly intelligent soprano of Frederica von Stade and the deft piano playing of Jean-Philippe Collard in a satisfyingly balanced selection of songs early and later, popular and less well known.

Prokofiev: *Cinderella* Ashkenazy/Cleveland Orchestra (Decca 410 162-1D12, two records)

Prokofiev's *Cinderella* is a masterpiece of musical comedy, since anyone else



Musical staves: The look of the masters. From left, Stockhausen, Liszt, Glass, Bizet, Strauss, Boulez and Monteverdi

At last, a singer fit for the songs

Critic's choice

Hilary Finch

Two complete *Cinderellas* have recently filled a gap in the catalogue: with its urbane phrasing and brightly characterful woodwind detail, this version captures most clearly *Cinderella's* and Prokofiev's double vision of the ironic adult and the wide-eyed child, and conveys in its very poise the fragility of the thread connecting the two.

Liszt: *Schubert Songs* Transcriptions Jorge Bolet (Decca SXDL 7569)

Liszt's own response to Schubert, our remembered responses to his songs and Jorge Bolet's own obvious delight in the transcription as a form fuse together in 12 performances (including "Die Forelle", "Wohin?", "Erlkönig") which are no mere virtuoso showpiece but scintillating recreations of the imaginative insight of both composers.

Chabrier: *Poèmes de l'amour et de la mer/Mélodies* Norman/Armin Jordan/Chabrier et Orchestra Philharmonique de Monte-Carlo (Erato NUM 75059)

A record as valuable for bringing more separate Chabrier songs, including his "Chanson Perpetuelle", back into the catalogue as for the thoroughly idiomatic proportion between restraint and opulence in its intuitive, full-hearted vocal and orchestral responses.

Britten: *Our Hunting Fathers/Folk Songs* Söderström/Armstrong/Welsh National Opera Orchestra (EMI ASD 4397)

Not before time, a female-voice recording, as first conceived by Britten, of his startlingly ingenious and harrowing settings of Auden on man's inhumanity to man and beast. Richard Armstrong whips the WNO Orchestra into vivid support here and in the delightfully orchestrated folk-song settings on the other side.

Jessye Norman: *Sensuous* sound quality

Flourishing arts of earlier centuries

Critic's choice

Nicholas Kenyon

De Diabolis Chant The Medieval Ensemble of London/L'Orchestre Lyrique/Lyrique/DSO 704

Monteverdi: *Il Ballo dello Ingrate*; Legnina d'amante Les Arts Florissants/William Christie (Harmonia Mundi France HM 1108)

Rameau: *Les Bacheliers* Monteverdi Choir, English Baroque Soloists/John Eliot Gardiner (Erato STU 715343, three records)

With the temporal boundaries of early music becoming ever wider, it would be invidious to choose between these three superb additions to our understanding of the fourteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The Medieval Ensemble's command of the incredible intricacies of the French repertoire between Machaut and Dufay is unrivalled.

Also recommended: *Bach: Brandenburg Concertos* The English Concert/Trevor Pinnock (Archiv 274003, two records)

That each has its own distinct identity. The harmony and, in the earlier pieces, the complex textures are especially personal. These works all possess, too, both imaginative richness and a strong intellectual element. The performances, at present available only on cassette, are not such as to turn the tide of

neglect, but they should arouse curiosity about van Dieren, and as such are worth giving prominence to here.

Also recommended: *Liszt: Piano Works* Claudio Arrau (Philips 6768 355, seven records)

Martin: *Symphonies* Václav Neumann/Czech Philharmonic (Supraphon 1410 3071-4, four records)

Elliott Carter: *Piano Works* Charles Rosen (Etcetera/Conifer ETC1008)

Koyanetski: *Piano Works* Charles Rosen (Etcetera/Conifer ETC1008)

Beethoven: *Piano Sonatas* Egon Petri (dell'Arte DA9012)

Ravished by moving in glittering circles

Critic's choice

John Higgins

Bizet: *Carmen* Baltsa/Ricciarelli/Carreras/Van Dam; Berlin Philharmonic/Karajan (Deutsche Grammophon 2741 025, compact disc 410 088-2 GH 3, both three records)

It has been the year of the compact disc and nowhere has the difference in sound quality between these gleaming silver circles and the conventional black disc been more evident than in Deutsche Grammophon's *Carmen*. And any recording deficiencies too, the cynics would add. The error of using a double cast, one to sing and one for the spoken dialogue, comes out all too clearly. But there is Baltsa's animal *Carmen*, Carreras's romantic Jose and above all Karajan and the Philharmonic. A set to ravish the ear.

Also recommended: *Masseenet: *Manon** Cotrubas/Kraus/Quilico/Van Dam; Toulouse Capitole Orchestra/Plasson (EMI SLS 1731413, three records, cassette TC-SLS 1731415)

If EMI had managed to bring out Masseenet's *Manon* on compact by the end of the year then it would have been a

challenger for first place. It was possibly the most imaginatively cast opera set of 1983, with Cotrubas as a natural in the title role and Kraus, as seductively voiced as ever, as Des Grieux. Charles Dutoit, the orchestra, the Toulouse Capitole under Plasson, is outstanding.

De Falla: *Le Tricorne, El Amor Brujo* Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal/Dutoit (Decca compact disc 410 008-2)

Back to compact and one of the most exciting orchestral recordings of the year, both in terms of interpretation and pure sound. Charles Dutoit's reputation is not sufficiently high in this country, or in his native Switzerland for that matter. His control of the Montréal Symphony on this record should help make amends.

Offenbach: *Pomme d'Api*, *Monsieur Choufleuri*, *Mesdames de la Halle* Mesprie, Lafont, Bezace; Monte Carlo De la Philharmonie/Rosenthal (EMI SLS 1731743, three records, cassette TC-SLS 1731745)

Stage performance does not always transfer well, but in this triple bill EMI have achieved it with a little discreet tinkering with the cast, seen at Paris's Salle Favart in *Vive Offenbach!* Great verve here from the Monte Carlo orchestra under Manuel Rosenthal and thoroughly stylish performances all round.

Verdi: *Falstaff* Bruson/Ricciarelli/Nucci; Los Angeles Philharmonic/Giulini (Deutsche Grammophon 2741 020, compact disc 410 088-2 GH 3)

I would like to have included in this list Sinopoli's opera debut on record *Nabucco*, which was not as well received as it should have been in some quarters. But the fifth place has to go to Giulini's interpretation of *Falstaff*, wide and autumnal. There are some casting weaknesses, but it is for Giulini himself, in a year which seems to have gone to conductors rather than singers, that I chose this set.

Opera on Record II edited by Alan Blyth (Hutchinson, £15)

Having been rather greedy in choosing complete opera for four of the five places, I will be a little more modest and select a book for the sixth. Alan Blyth's survey has moved into volume two this autumn, with volume three promised next year. There is no need to agree with all his contributions, although some are beyond reproach, but this is an invaluable reference book, scrupulously edited.

Subtle declaration of independence

Critic's choice

Max Harrison

Bernard van Dieren 1887-1936 Eluned Davies (British Music Society cassette BMS402)

Though he spent most of his life in Britain, Bernard van Dieren is an extremely remote figure, and is almost ignored in surveys of British music between the wars. Yet despite a long struggle against ill health, he produced a considerable number of scores of almost disconcerting independence. Eluned Davies plays three piano works, the Sketches (1910-11), Toccata (1912) and Variations (1927), and it is characteristic of this composer

that each has its own distinct identity. The harmony and, in the earlier pieces, the complex textures are especially personal. These works all possess, too, both imaginative richness and a strong intellectual element. The performances, at present available only on cassette, are not such as to turn the tide of

neglect, but they should arouse curiosity about van Dieren, and as such are worth giving prominence to here.

Also recommended: *Liszt: Piano Works* Claudio Arrau (Philips 6768 355, seven records)

Martin: *Symphonies* Václav Neumann/Czech Philharmonic (Supraphon 1410 3071-4, four records)

Elliott Carter: *Piano Works* Charles Rosen (Etcetera/Conifer ETC1008)

Koyanetski: *Piano Works* Charles Rosen (Etcetera/Conifer ETC1008)

Beethoven: *Piano Sonatas* Egon Petri (dell'Arte DA9012)

PREVIEW Guide to holiday services

The traditional festival of nine lessons and carols now competes in popularity with the newer Christmas service, often held in aid of the Church of England Children's Society.

The Chingle is an orange, symbolizing the world, pierced with four sticks of fruit (the seasons) and a candle (the Light of the World), tied with a ribbon (the blood of Christ). During the service children receive Christingles as thanks for their collections for the society. Then the candles are lit.

The festival of nine lessons and carols was designed by E. W. Benson, Bishop of Truro and later Archbishop of Canterbury. It first appeared on Christmas Eve 1880 in a wooden shed that served the three-year-old Truro diocese while the cathedral was being built. Nine carols were interspersed with short lessons read by church officers, beginning with a chorister and ending with the Bishop.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

Edinburgh Cathedral (Episcopal): Dec 24, 7.30pm, festival of nine lessons and carols.

Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, EC1 (Methodist): Dec 14, 12.45pm.

Southwest Cathedral: Dec 18, 3pm, carol service. Dec 21, 12.45pm, lunchtime carol sing-in with Lord Miles.

Southwest Metropolitan Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 21, 7pm, carols, readings, dance and tableaux.

Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic): Dec 20, 7.30pm, carols and readings by candlelight, attended by Princess Anne.

Westminster Abbey: Dec 26, 3pm, Evensong with carols and procession. Dec 28, 3pm, procession and carols.

Central Hall, Westminster (Methodist): Dec 18, 6.30pm.

Edinburgh, The High Kirk: Dec 18, 7pm, festival of nine lessons and carols, the lessons read by Tom Fleming.

PREVIEW Theatre



Bond is back: Sean Connery returns as 007 (left) and he's just as cool as he ever was

Critics' choice

of its clichés: "Now that you're on the case", says Alec McCowen's Q, "I hope we're going to have some gratuitous sex and violence".

Never Say Never Again opens in London on Thurs at the Warner West End, ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Studio Oxford Circus, Classic Haymarket, and Classic Tottenham Court Road. Sean Connery will be interviewed on stage at the National Film Theatre, London, on Tues (8.45pm).

Critics' choice

Gate Bloomsbury (837 8402)
Screen on the Green (226 3520)
Warner West End (439 0791)
There may be Woody Allen films

with a bigger pile of laughs, but none can compare with this pseudo-documentary for bizarre imagination and technical brilliance. The history of Leonard Zeig, the human chameleon, prompts good jokes about modern neuroses and American society; but Allen's brightest achievement is the fabrication of a bogus — and completely believable — legend from authentic visual documents. Documentary portraits will never seem the same again. With Mia

OUTSIDE LONDON
LONDON FILM FESTIVAL ON TOUR
A selection of films from the festival, including Shyam Benegal's *Market Place*, Ken McMullen's *Ghost Dance* and Henry Jaglom's *Can She Bake a Cherry Pie?*, visits Bradford National Museum of Photography (today and tomorrow), Cambridge Arts Cinema (tomorrow until Dec 17) and Glasgow Film Theatre (Thurs to

Opera
COVENT GARDEN

REVIEW Music

Opera

COVENT GARDEN
The *Esclarmonde* of Massenet that people love to hate is all that's on offer at the Royal Opera this week.

If you want either the opera or the performance of Dame Joan Sutherland for whom this production was created, then take it rather than leave it. Otherwise stay away until *Wacarmus* arrives on Dec 19. (240 1066)

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
This week something old and something new alternate on the Coliseum stage: On Wed and Fri the new production of Gounod's rarely performed *Provençal* opera *Mireille*, conducted by Serge Baudo and with Valerie Masterson

CONCERT CROS

Prizes of the New Collins Concise first two correct solutions opened on should be addressed to The Times Crossword, 1, Coleman Street, London EC6A 3DP. The winning solution was announced on Saturday, December 10, 1994.

ACROSS

- 1 St John's bread (5)
- 4 Illegal (?)
- 8 Reject (5)
- 9 Fragment (?)
- 10 Oratory (8)
- 11 Near (4)
- 13 Mar (5)
- 15 Wallow (5)
- 19 Cure (4)

1	2	
3		
10		

23 Angry speech (b)
24 Shining (7)
25 Cease-fire (5)
26 Scurrying person
(7)
27 Radioactive gas (5)

DOWN

1 Billet (6)
2 Itinerary (5)
3 Exuberant
friendliness (8)
4 Implant (6)
5 Den (4)
6 Whim (7)

SOLITIC
ACROSS:
10 Niger

12 Great celebrity (8)
14 Manners (2,3,2)
16 Innocent child (6)
17 Repartee (6)
18 Into this place (6)
21 Squash (5)
22 Avenue (4)

16 Baiting
24 Risks 2
DOWN:
5 Winnie
13 Offending
20 Lyon
Recommence
Concise

SOLUTION TO No 314 (Last Saturday)
ACROSS: 1 Rigid 4 Means rare
11 Boss 13 Strap 15 Harsh 19 Rare
25 Hospice 26 Drawl
DOWN: 1 Rocco 2 Glide 3 Diet
7 Agnost 12 Vagabond 14 Tagger

ayhouse; Thurs, Glasgow
polko; Fri, Queen's Hall, Lee

21 Omega 22 Foot
The winners of prize concise No 2
College School, Oxford, and N. 6
Charingworth, Chipping Campden,
Name.....
Address.....
.....

Opera

singing the title role as to the *maior* born; and on Thurs and next Sat a revival of Colin Graham's production of *Madame Butterfly* with Eiddwen Harri, Anne Marie Owens and Rowland Sidwell. Book now, too, for *The Adventures of Mr Bruck*, to be conducted from Dec 23 by Janáček veteran Sir Charles Mackerras – a delightful and original Christmas entertainment.
(836 3161)

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 220)

ACROSS

1	St John's bread (5)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	Illegal (7)							
8	Reject (5)							
9	Fragment (7)	8			9			
10	Oratory (8)							
11	Near (4)							
13	Mar (5)	10					11	
15	Wallow (5)							
19	Cure (4)					12		
20	Angry speech (8)		13	14		15		
23	Shining (7)							
24	Cease-fire (5)	16				17		18
25	Scurrying person (7)							
26	Radioactive gas (5)	19			20		21	
				22				

4 Timpant (b)
5 Den (4)
6 Whim (7)
7 Irritable (6)
12 Great celebrity (8)
14 Manners (2,3,2)
16 Innocent child (6)
17 Repetate (6)
18 Into this place (6)
21 Squash (5)
ACROSS: 1 Apropos 5 Wipes 8 Tui 9 Multatuli
10 Nigier 11 Fear 12 Chicano 14 Fundamentally
16 Earning 18 Eddie 21 Dhotti 23 Economy 23 Ass
24 Risks 25 Echelon
DOWN: 1 Alms 2 Rille 3 Paterfamilias 4 Stoic
5 Winnie the Pooh 6 Pigtail 7 Sardonyx
13 Offender 15 Nervous 17 Geese 19 Droll
20 Lyon
Recommended dictionary is the New Collins
Concise

SOLUTION To No 214 (Last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Rigid 4 Mens rea 8 Crime 9 Yiddish 10 Clerihew
 11 Boss 13 Strap 15 Harsh 19 Rags 20 Paranola 23 Artwork 24 Over
 25 Hospice 26 Drawl
DOWN: 1 Roccoco 2 Glide 3 Dies irae 4 Mayhem 5 Node 6 Ruinous
 7 Aghast 12 Vagabond 14 Tagetes 16 Wreath 17 Yankee 18 Cartel

The winners of prize concise No 214 are: Mrs J. S. Bisterworth, New College School, Oxford, and N. C. von Twickel, The Bank Cottage, Charringworth, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

NATIONAL CAT SHOW: The biggest one-day cat event attracts 2,000 entrants for classes ranging from best in each of the 80 or so breeds to healthiest pet and most beautiful colour. Long-haired blues, curly-coated rexes, white-footed Burmese and others compete to be champion of champions. Olympia, Kensington, London W14 (373 8141). 10.30am-5.30pm. Tickets £1.50 adults; 80p children.

INTERNATIONAL GYMNASTICS: Gymnasts from China, Japan, Cuba, the USSR and Britain display their Olympic routines in the Coca-Cola International competition, the first international since the world championships, won by the Chinese, Wembley Arena, Wembley, Middlesex (802 1234). Today and tomorrow, 2pm. Tickets £3.50-£6.

FA CUP: Reaches its second round with plenty of non-league survivors eager to make further progress at the expense of third and fourth division sides. The potential giant killers include Harrow Borough at home to Newport County, Altrincham who visit Darlington, and Chelmsford City away to Gillingham. The draw for the third round can be heard live on Radio 2 at 5.30pm.

THE TWO RONNIES: Barker and Corbett are back with a new series and if the mixture of sketches, musical parodies, shaggy dog stories and Barker's marvellous verbal gymnastics is much as before, that is how the customers like it. But the series has been dropped in favour of self-contained film stories of which the first is called "Raiders of the Lost Ark". BBC1, 8.10-9pm.

THE DAY AFTER: Jason Roberts and Joseph Williams in the film that shook America - a harrowing account of how a Kansas community is devastated by a nuclear attack. The subject is made all the more graphic and horrifying by concentrating on the lives of ordinary people: a heart surgeon, a farmer and his family preparing for a daughter's wedding and a woman awaiting the birth of her first child. All ITV regions, 9.30-11.35pm.

Tomorrow

HOPKINS: Peter Gale's one-man show, assembled at the Edinburgh Festival, recounts the life of Gerald Manley Hopkins and includes his poems. St George's Theatre, 49 Tufnell Park Road, London NW1 (607 1128). 8pm. Tickets £5-£10.

SPORTS REVIEW OF 1983: A rapid skim through the outstanding moments of the last 12 months is the prelude to the announcement of the thirtieth BBC Sports Personality of the Year chosen, as usual, by the votes of viewers. Among the candidates are athletics gold medalists Daley Thompson and Steve Cram; world ice dance champions Torvill and Dean; and Steve Davis from snooker. The presentation is being made by Bobby Charlton. BBC 1, 8.40-10.10pm.

Monday

PENDANT ANTIQUITY: Pierced pendants and amulets made in Egypt three or four thousand years before Christ are included in a sale today and tomorrow. The pendants are being sold in pairs estimated to fetch between £300 and £800. Sotheby's, 49, Bond Street, London W1 (493 0800) at 11am and 2.30pm today, 10am tomorrow.

GENUINE FASHES: Tom Keating is making his bid to succeed in putting the contents of his studio up for sale. There are pastiches of Constable, Degas, Titian and many more, a chamber of Tom's mother having a glass of Guinness with Rembrandt, and some pictures not imitating any of his beloved Old Masters. Christie's, South Kensington, London SW7 (581 2231) at 5pm.

THEATRE QUIZ: The National Theatre competes against the Royal Shakespeare Company in a quiz devised by Sheridan Morley. Jojo Ackland joins the team representing the NT and Sheila Hancock is among those playing for the RSC. But the audience has the chance to outwit the panelists and win prizes. Cottesloe Theatre, South Kensington (928 2252) at 6pm. £1.50.

OLIVER! Ron Moody recreates the role of Fagin in this revival of Lionel Bart's musical. Peter Coo directs Meg Johnson, Geoffrey Toone, Aldwych (836 6404). Opens today at 7.30pm. Until Jan 14, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinees Wed and Sat at 3pm, also Dec 29, Jan 5, at 3pm.

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE: Transferring from the Shatoh Theatre to make way for Aladdin this Roy Cooney written and



Facing issues: William Golding, one of the guests at a Sotheby's auction (Wednesday)

directed faros has been playing to good houses for months and the cast is now headed by James Bolam, Ian Ogilvy, Stratford Johns, Carol Hawkins, Hoyce Mills, Helen Gill, Sam Con and Stuart Sherwin. Criterion (830 3216). Opens today at 8pm. Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5.30pm and 8.30pm; matinees Thurs at 2.30pm.

Tuesday

DICKENS DRIVE: Members of the Dickens Fellowship and their associates dressed in Victorian costume drive through London in a coach, leaving Dickens House in Doughty Street, WC1 at 2pm. They go to St Paul's Cathedral, take tea at the Savoy and process through the West End to St Peter's, Eaton Square for carols, readings from A Christmas Carol and hot mince pies at 6.30pm.

CONSERVATION: Sir John Summerson, curator of the Soane Museum and eminent architectural historian, talks about the buildings of the 1930s, in his discussion of changing attitudes to conservation over the last half-century he asks whether the urge to preserve has gone too far. Friends House, Guston Road (opposite Euston Station), London NW1. 7pm. £3.

ROUTINE PUNCTUATED BY ORGIES: A phrase originally coined by Aldous Huxley and taken over by Lord Rothschild to describe the work of the Central Policy Review Staff, better known as the Think Tank, which he was the first director. The Think Tank was created in 1971 by Edward Heath and killed this year by Mrs Thatcher. Peter Hennessy of The Times traces its history. Radio 3, 7-7.45pm.

NO PLACE LIKE HOME: New comedy series about a middle-aged couple, played by William Gauri and Patricia Garwood, who are looking forward to each other's undivided attention as the last of their four grown-up children prepares to leave home. But it does not work out exactly as they expect. The writer is Jon Watkins, whose previous credits include Bless This House and Terry and June. BBC1, 7.40-8.10pm.

THE AERODROME: Rex Warner's latest novel, a black comedy of the near future in which a quiet Cotswold village is threatened by

the sinister airforce nearby, has been adapted as a television film by Robin Chapman. Peter Firth as a young pilot and Richard Johnson as the air commander lead a cast that also includes Richard Briers and Jill Bennett. The director is Glee Foster. BBC1, 9.25-10.55pm.

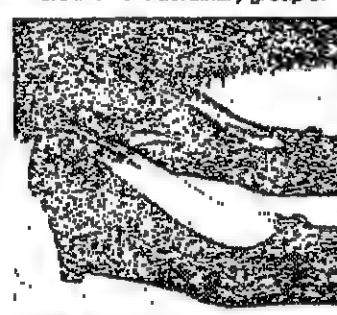
Wednesday

ISLAMIC BOOKBINDINGS: Sculpture of every date is suddenly coming into fashion and pre-war Victorian works took off at Sotheby's major autumn sale to weeks ago. The sculpture included at the back of their less important painting sale today offers an opportunity to get in on the act. Price estimates range from £300 to £4,000. Sotheby's New Bond Street, London W1 (493 0800) at 11am.

DOLLS: A Miss World line-up of dolls parade for sale today. A Swiss marionette, a French Dream Baby doll and an English fabric doll join wooden dolls, sleeping dolls, brown-eyed and blue-eyed dolls.

PHILIP GARNER: The American artist and author of The Better Living Catalogue and Utopia comes to London for three weeks to exhibit his absurd inventions, including a Cap-for-Two and a Munch-o-matic sandwich holder for the busy tylist. Mr Garner will also be assembling new products from objects found around London. The Bolterhouse Project, Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (581 5273). Mon-Thurs and Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm, closed Fri. Free. Ends Jan 5.

CHINESE TREASURES: Important three-day sale of Chinese art begins today. There is an extraordinary group of



Shoes for clumsy dancing partners, sunglasses for the motorist who has everything: Philip Garner's inventions at the Bolterhouse

fifteenth and sixteenth-century red lacquer, some important sculpture, good Tang pottery, including a fine camel, and examples of the brush sought after by Yuan and Mingue and white porcelains of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Christie's, King Street, Loro, SW1 (539 9060) at 11am and 2.30pm today and tomorrow, 11am on Fri.

VICTORIAN SCULPTURE: Sculpture of every date is suddenly coming into fashion and pre-war Victorian works took off at Sotheby's major autumn sale to weeks ago. The sculpture included at the back of their less important painting sale today offers an opportunity to get in on the act. Price estimates range from £300 to £4,000. Sotheby's New Bond Street, London W1 (493 0800) at 11am.

ARTS REVIEW: Melvyn Bragg and his South Bank Show team switch channels to present the first programme of its kind in which personalities from the arts come together to recall the leading events and issues of the past 12 months. The interviewees range from William Golding to Sir Richard Attenborough and Boy George to Billy Connolly. The programme has also commissioned a design from David Hockney which he will create in fact of the cameras. Channel 4, 8.1pm.

TH GPO STORY: A programme about letters and parcels but the BPO Film Unit and its role in the British documentary movement of the 1930s. Led by John Grierson, the up was the meeting ground for a remarkable collection of talent, including Norman McLaren, Harry Watt, and Humphrey Jennings. W. H. Auden and Benjamin Britten. BBC2, 8.30-10.00pm.

EUROPEAN FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP: The key match tonight is Wales v Yugoslavia at Cardiff. With England, Scotland and Northern Ireland already eliminated, Wales are the last hope for British representation at the finals in France next year. But they must beat Yugoslavia to make sure of qualifying. Highlights of the game are on Sportnight, BBC1, 10-10.50pm.



Nobby Clark

Thursday

COMPUTER FAIR: The latest equipment for those with home computers is on exhibition and for sale, including software, hardware, peripherals and add-ons. Dragon Data is showing its 84 K-Byte version of the Dragon Micro and Level 9 Computing demonstrates five new puzzle adventures. Wembley Conference Centre, Wembley, Middlesex (802 1234). 10am-6pm (until 8pm on Fri). Adults £2.50, children under 16 and pensioners £1.50. Ends Dec 18.

SILENT CINEMA 1918-1926: The bill of fare for this four-day conference at the University of East Anglia includes 16 tantalizing silent films by Lubitsch, Fritz Siller and Victor Sjöström (director of The Wind). Details from Film Studies, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TJ (0503 56161).

NEVER SAY NEVER AGAIN: Sean Connery returns to the role of James Bond in Jack Schwartzman's film. See page 17.

SHOWJUMPING: The Olympia Championships, one of the most popular annual international horse shows, has attracted a distinguished entry including Harvey Smith, Nick Skelton, John Whitaker, Malcolm Pirah and David Broome. This evening's main event is the Norwich Union Turkey Stakes, one round and a jump-off against the clock. Olympia, London W14 (373 8141). Today 7pm, Fri-Sun 1.30pm and 7pm. £3-£12. Television coverage on BBC1 tonight, 11.20pm-12.10am.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS: John Alderton and Jan Waters lead in a new comedy by Bernard Slade, who also directs. Fourteen short scenes tell of 10 years in the relationship between a husband and wife who stay close even after divorce. Ambassadors (536 1171). Opens today at 8pm. Until Feb 11, Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5.30 and 8.30pm, matinee Tues at 5pm.

A FLAME TO THE PHOENIX: Film for television written by Murray Smith and directed by William Bryne which uses the fate of a country estate in Poland on the eve of the Second World War to illuminate the tragedy of that heroic nation. The leading parts of a countess and a retired general are played by Frederick Treves and Ann Firbank. Channel 4, 9.30-11pm.

Friday

JAWS III D: Sharks slip into the Sea World holiday complex in Florida and terrify the crowds in the third film, to be screened in S-D in many cinemas. Joe Alves directs Dennis Quaid, Bess Armstrong, Simon MacCorkindale and Louis Gossett Jr. Cart PG. Plaza Piccadilly Circus (437 1234) in 3-D. Also on general release.

NIGHTSHOOT: Singer Hazel O'Connor has written the songs and plays the lead in Bob Mason's black comedy about the Government's take-over of television after a major civil disaster. Suggested as a show for those too old for pantomime and too young to stay at home. Tricycle Theatre, 259 Kilburn High Road, London NW6 (328 8626). Opens today at 8pm. Until Jan 20, Mon-Sat 8pm (7pm on Dec 20), no performances Dec 24-27 or Jan 2.

Chess

Conjuring up a real sensation

The Acorn Computer World Chess Championship semi-finals are now in progress at the Great Eastern Hotel in Liverpool. The most prestigious chess events held in this country since the International Team Tournament (later the Chess Olympiad) of 1927.

I use the word prestigious both in a modern and derivative sense, since it needed little less than a conjuring trick to have them played here after the dead-ends resulting from disagreement between the Soviet Chess Federation and the World Chess Federation President. All honour then to David Anderson, Ray Keene and Dominic Lawson, who seem to have accomplished the mighty feat of finding nearly £80,000 sponsorship from Acorn Computers, an appropriate venue and a team of organizers, all in the space of a fortnight.

It would indeed have been a disaster had the chess world been deprived of matches between such fine players as Garry Kasparov, Viktor Korchnoi, Vassily Smyslov and Zoltan Ribli, all of whom had very high Elo ratings in the last editions issued by FIDE in July 1983.

Here is how Korchnoi created a sensation by beating Kasparov in the first game on November 21.

White: G. Kasparov, Black: V. Korchnoi. Q.P. Queen's Indian Defence.

Preventing Black from playing B-N5 and so transposing to a kind of Nimzoindian Defence with strong pressure on White's K4.

Now that White has prevented him from playing B-N5 he develops this Bishop too on a long diagonal.

Curiously enough this and the following move do not turn out well for White. He would do better to play B-N5ch.

But this, ruining as it does his pawn structure, is a bad idea, especially in view of what now happens. Correct was 14 Q-O.

An excellent pawn sacrifice which, in view of the scattered nature of White's pawns, is purely temporary.

Probably overlooking Black's reply (Kasparov was now under acute time pressure) and thus coming down to a lost ending. He should have eliminated the powerful Knight by 24 BxN.

A fine tactical stroke which wins a pawn and in particular, a passed pawn.

The ending now is a simple win for Black.

White resigns.

Harry Golombek

CHRISTIE'S St. JAMES'S 8 King Street London SW1

Next week's sales

12th at 10.30 am and 13th at 2.30 pm

Important English and Continental Silver, Objects of Vertu and Antique Jewellery

13th at 10.30 am

Important Portrait Miniatures

13th at 10.30 am

English Drawings and Watercolours

13th at 2.30 pm and 14th at 10.30 am

Fine Antiquities

14th at 2.30 pm

Modern Sporting Guns, Vintage Firearms, Antique Arms and Armour

14th at 11.00 am and 2.30 pm

Important Chinese Lacquer, Ceramics and Works of Art

15th at 11.00 am and 2.30 pm

Objects of Art, Fine Continental Furniture, Tapestries, Eastern Rugs and Carpets

15th at 2.30 pm and 16th at 11.00 am

Old Master Pictures

16th at 10.30 am

Russian Works of Art, Russian and Greek Icons

Information on these sales on 01-839 9060/930 8870

SOUTH KENSINGTON 85 Old Brompton Road London SW7

12th at 10.30 am

Oriental Scrolls

12th at 2.00 pm

English, Continental and Modern British Drawings and Watercolours

12th at 5.00 pm

Paintings, Watercolours and Drawings by Tom Keating

14th at 2.00 pm

Old Master and English Pictures

15th at 10.30 am

English Ceramics

16th at 2.00 pm

Art Nouveau and Art Deco

16th at 2.00 pm

Dolls

There will also be sales of Silver, Jewellery, Carpets and Objects of Art, Furniture, Ceramics, Books, Oriental Works of Art and Ceramics, Objects of Vertu, Pictures, Watercolours, Drawings and Prints.

Information on these sales on 01-581 2231/3679

ON THE PREMISES

Tuesday, 13 December at 10.30 am and 2.00 pm

The Avenue, 40 Greenhill Gardens, Edinburgh EH10

The Property of The late Lady Carmont Sold by Order of the Executors

Catalogue £5 (£5.70 post paid)

Information on this sale on 041-332 8134

At home/Photography

Flash of inspiration

There is no better way of immortalizing a Christmas morning filled with excited children, contented grandparents and eager hands exploring presents than by photographing it - if you can get the light right.

Of course indoor pictures can be lit with the aid of a flashgun, but there is still the problem of sorting out the balance of flash and camera settings, a procedure made no easier by any amount of Christmas spirit.

Now, however, the age of uncertainty has been replaced by the age of the auto flashgun. These ingenious devices have a small window or "eye" located at the front which goes by the longwinded name of "thyristor". It is this which does the balancing act... in a flash. All the photographer has to do is select a camera aperture for a circumscribed distance.



Nevertheless a few pitfalls remain to watch out for. First, check that the shutter is at the correct synchro speed, on some cameras a 60th or 125th of a second, on others indicated by a small bolt-of-lightning symbol. Second, check that the camera and flashgun are set for the same film speed (ASA). Third, when selecting an aperture decide what is the maximum distance you need to cover. Set the flashgun for the greatest expected distance. Read off the choice of apertures available (usually three or more) and choose one to suit the depth-of-field desired.

When it comes to taking the picture, always be sure the thyristor is pointed directly at the subject. Best results are achieved with the flashgun held high to avoid red eyes in colour pictures, or by tilting the head of the flashgun upwards (if it

has this facility) in order to bounce light off the ceiling. This will give a softer effect and avoid ugly shadows behind the subject, but remember when bouncing that the distance to allow for is the total from camera to ceiling to subject.

Take care too with backlit subjects. Computerized eyes are not infallible and the thyristor may include the backlighting in its calculation, causing underexposure.

The solution to this problem is the even more clever "dedicated flash". Designed for use with specific cameras its major innovation has been the addition of "off the film" metering, whereby the micro-electronics of the flashgun and camera work in conjunction to calculate exposure at the film surface, ensuring absolute accuracy in all conditions.

It follows that there are a number of points to look for when buying a flashgun:

- Is it capable of both auto and manual operation - to allow for special lighting situations?
- Can it be separated from the camera and used with a synch lead - so that it can be held high?
- Does the head tilt?
- Is it "dedicated" to your camera?

Other useful specifications to consider are size, variety of power sources (batteries, rechargeable, mains), the inclusion of a zoom head to channel or spread the light for use with a telephoto or wide-angle lens, and to instil confidence a "sufficient light" indicator which glows to show enough flash power is being used. Surprisingly these features can be found on equipment costing less than £35 as well as on professional flashguns at more than £100.

Good cheap models include the Metz 1A (£13), the Vivitar 2500 (£27), Haninex TZ1-34 (£30). Adequate for most tasks are the Sunpak 30DX (£45), the versatile Vivitar 4600 (£65), National PE 3675 (£68) and Braun 340 SCA (£68). To meet any situation the Metz 45 (£135), or National PE 480SG (£135) are firm professional favourites. These flashguns are compatible with most cameras.

Roy Cuckow

Bridge

Times when you can count on success

Counting the unseen hands is as indispensable in defence as in dummy play. Rubber Bridge. Game all. Dealer South.

W N E S
14 5 20 3
46 5 10 10
Double No No No No

Opening lead ♠A

Few British experts would pass the South hand originally, which makes North's support at the five level surprisingly trusting.

In response to East's ♠Q, West continued with the ♠2. Declarer ruffed, cashed the ♠A and ruffed a spade, returned to his hand with a club ruff and ruffed the remaining spade in dummy. When declarer played a trump, West found himself on lead in this sad card ending.

W N E S
14 5 20 3
46 5 10 10
Double No No No No

Opening lead ♠A

With the superficial notion of shortening declarer's trump, he continued with the ♠Q. But declarer ruffed, drew the outstanding trump, and with the help of the benign 2-2 diamond break made the remaining tricks.

Seeing all four hands, it is easy to see that a diamond continuation would have been a disaster. Then East could not be prevented from ruffing the third diamond to score the setting trick.

How could West tell? He knew that South had no more black cards. His original distribution could only have been five hearts and four diamonds or six hearts and three diamonds. The latter is infinitely more probable because only the wild man of Borneo enters the bidding at the three level on a five card suit. Surely the

suggested defence relies on East holding the ♠Q? Certainly, but even the most timorous players open the bidding on

Guilty as charged.

That hand required little more than elementary attention. My next example demands both counting and foresight. Rubber Bridge. Game all and 60 all. Dealer West:

W N E S
14 5 20 3
46 5 10 10
Double No No No No

Opening lead ♠A

West's three club bid is doubtful but it could have reaped a handsome if undeserved reward, if West had led a spade, the defence would have

had no difficulty in taking five tricks. As it was, he led the ♠2 and the onus lay on East to find the correct continuation. When he returned the ♠4 the defence was lost.

West foresaw that if they failed to cash the ♠A at once, declarer would dispose of his losing heart on an established queen of clubs. Much as he wished to play a spade, he had to play a heart and hope that East had the ♠KQ as well as the ♠A. As it went, declarer was able to establish dummy's long heart, which together with the ♠Q and the ♠A offered a parking place for his three losing spades.

Notice the difference if East cashes the ♠A before turning a club. West switches to a spade, and the ace of diamonds is an insuperable obstacle to declarer's attempts to establish the hearts before the defence can take their fifth trick.

How could East tell? By careful counting. Declarer must have six diamonds to justify rebidding an unsupported broken suit. From West's lead of the ♠2, declarer is known to have at least two clubs. As West elected to support clubs rather than spades, he can have at

most three spades, leaving declarer with four. Six diamonds, two clubs, four spades, and therefore one heart.

Having successfully completed the deduction, the mechanics would have been less demanding.

Jeremy Flint

The Ideal Xmas Gift for bridge addicts

Jeremy Flint's Bridge with The Times

only £6.95 post free.

Order your copy now by filling in this coupon and sending it to: NEWMEN BOOKS, 24-26 The Centre, Farnham, Middlesex TW11 3BJ. Please send me:

1 copy of Bridge with The Times (a regular P.O. made out to NEWMEN BOOKS, Ltd.)

If I am not completely satisfied I may return the copy(ies) within 14 days of delivery and you will refund my money.

Name _____

Address _____

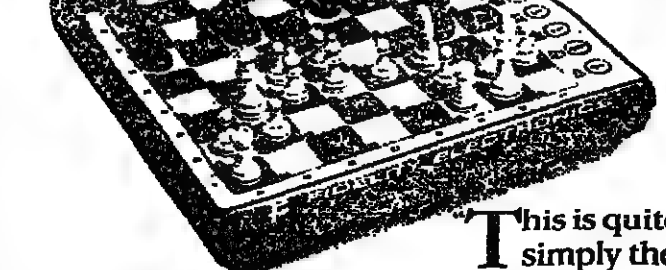
Please allow up to 28 days for delivery. This offer is applicable in the U.K. only. Rn No 521989

BRIDGE WITH THE TIMES

A brilliantly structured work which will help the reader to a better appreciation of the game.

A handbook of 176 pages published by NEWMEN BOOKS

Easy to play, hard to beat, impossible to equal



THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Japanese faith fans Australian dollar

The Australian Government has bowed to the inevitable and floated the Australian dollar in the foreign exchange market. This week alone £1 billion worth of currency flowed in adding to the £3.75 billion of speculative funds that had taken the exchange rate to a dangerously high level. That may seem small by London standards but in Australia only six banks are licensed to trade in foreign exchange and of those, four really matter.

Some merchant banks had established a "hedge" market in Australian dollars and were circumventing Canberra's strict foreign exchange dealing rules by trading forward, particularly in the small but significant offshore, or Euro-Australian dollar market.

The strength of the Australian dollar owes almost everything to the faith the Japanese have in Australia and its economy. Prior to the 10 per cent devaluation of the dollar in March the Japanese had been big buyers and they have sustained their demand since.

Australia's huge capital needs and the high level of Government borrowing have kept long-term interest rates a couple of points above New York rates. At the same time the Australian Government has tried to deter speculation by keeping short-term rates unrealistically low. On Thursday Australian banks were quoting negative rates. Yesterday, only 1/2 per cent was offered for seven-day money. Australia's stability and its future potential are prompting the thought that the country ought to have a major capital market of its own. Mr Paul Keating, Australia's Federal Treasurer, said he was attracted to the idea but had yet to make a decision.

The degree to which the Japanese role has influenced events can be gauged from the movement of the Australian dollar against the US dollar. At the time of the March devaluation the rate was 80 US cents to one Australian dollar. Immediately after yesterday's decision to float, the rate was at 91 cents and still rising.

The weakness of the pound against the US dollar caused a disproportionate move in the sterling-BA rate, the pound dropping three cents to \$A1.57.

On the stock markets in London and Sydney mining and agricultural shares fell by up to 15p each, reflecting the view that revaluation is a threat to their export earnings. Mr Michael Tong, senior manager at the Australia and New Zealand Banking Corp. in London one of the big four foreign exchange dealers, thought that current exchange rates were reasonable but were unlikely to remain stable. He thought that Australia's Labour Government would endeavour to bring rates back down. "Too much depends on it," he said. Mr Tong agreed that the pressure on the Australian Government to establish a more widely based capital market would grow.

BA take-off delayed

After several weeks of furious speculation, the Government is finally about to give us the first concrete details of its plans for the privatisation of British Airways. Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary, is expected to make an announcement in the House of Commons early next week, confirming that the flotation on the stock market is still on, but that it is unlikely to happen until the mammoth British Telecom sale next autumn is out of the way.

Several parts of the jigsaw are now in place. Mr Ridley will be offering 100 per cent of the company, rather than the 51

per cent envisaged when the Government, first produced its privatisation legislation that was in the balmy days three years ago before the airline industry went into its traumatic and for some airlines terminal nosedive.

The Government is not quarrelling with estimates that the sale could be worth £900m. As for timing, the plan is to transform BA from its present status as a public corporation to that of a public limited company next April.

It has been clear for some time that the campaign by Lord King, chairman of British Airways, to dislodge British Telecom from the top billing in the 1984 privatisation show had failed.

The likely date for floating BA - at the end of next year - could easily well slip back towards the middle of 1985. Timing must be left flexible, even if in practice the actual number of possible "slots" for issue of BA's size is limited.

The Government would like to get BA off its hands as soon as it can, but it cannot predict the outcome of the Telecom issue and any after-effects. Nor can it be certain that, despite Lord King's success in restoring BA to a position of apparent profit, there will not be a sudden relapse in the still precarious condition of the world airline industry.

As for the City, it will be watching most closely for news of what the Government proposes to do with BA's debt. The intention appears to be to pay off some of the £1,000m mountain of outstanding loans from proceeds of the sale, but final details of the capital reconstruction have yet to be worked out.

More time to ponder

The 79,000 shareholders of Trafalgar House and Peninsular and Orient Steam Navigation are going to have to wait until February to find out whether the unwelcome bid by Trafalgar for P&O has been cleared by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has agreed that the reporting period for the reference should be extended from December 20 to February 20, 1984.

Both sides were convinced that the commission could and would have reached its conclusions and written its report by the earlier date. Mr Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of P&O, expressed his disappointment at the delay which he sees as "a distraction to management". He said: "I had hoped this would be dealt with rapidly and enable us to continue running the business".

Though the stock market believes that the delay will give extra time for P&O to shore up its defences, Mr Sterling claimed: "We are perfectly prepared to face any onslaught now".

At Trafalgar House, a spokesman said: "We do think this will be very frustrating for P&O shareholders, as they would want to see the matter resolved as soon as possible. We are still awaiting the outcome with interest. We have been very busy and have cooperated with the Monopolies Commission fully".

The two companies have spent some £2m in their presentations to the Commission and both have been jockeying for position in expectation of a clearance, reckoned by Mr Nigel Brookes, chairman at Trafalgar, to be a 75 per cent chance.

Trafalgar's original all share (five for four) offer, if revived and successful, would leave P&O's 47,000 shareholders with 46 per cent of the combined group.

Building societies to set up Isle of Man offshoots

By Lorna Bourke

Halifax and Fife building societies are taking the revolutionary step of setting up Isle of Man societies which will be free to pay interest to investors without deduction of tax.

Halifax's and Leicester's Isle of Man "sponsored" societies expect to open their doors for business next year. Investment will be open to everyone whether resident on the mainland or elsewhere and the societies will be obliged to deduct tax at source before paying interest.

Mr Richard Lacy of the Leicester said: "There will be nothing preventing a mainland resident, regardless of his tax position, from investing in the Isle of Man Society. We will be able to pay interest gross and

there is nothing to stop anyone from Reykjavik to Harrow from investing.

Both Halifax and Leicester are playing down the advantages to British investors of receiving interest gross.

"We have to demonstrate to the Inland Revenue that this is not merely a tax avoidance scheme," Mr Lacy said.

Halifax confirms that its new Isle of Man society will also be paying interest without deduction of tax and that the rate is likely to be the equivalent of the grossed up mainland rate. This would work out at more than 10 per cent, and compares favourably with the home-based money funds, which offer less than 9 per cent.

Nationwide Building Society will also be setting up agency arrangements to service local Man residents, as time deposits

residents, but will not be opening a full blown Manx society, and it will not be paying interest gross.

At present there are no local societies operating on the island and the establishment of sponsored societies by Halifax and Leicester is dependent on new legislation which is expected to be passed by the Isle of Man parliament, the Tynwald, in the New Year.

The sole existing society has been inactive for some years and is being wound up. Mr Chris Jowett of the Halifax said: "We haven't finalized details but we expect to be open for business in the spring."

If the society is a success and takes in large sums of money, it will deposit any surplus not needed for lending to Isle of Man residents, as time deposits

with its "sponsoring" parent on the mainland.

The danger is that tax evaders will use the Manx societies to obtain a higher return and fail to declare the interest to the Inland Revenue. If this were to happen to any great extent, it could also mean that mainland based branches would lose deposits which would be channelled into Isle of Man societies, only to be redeposited with the sponsoring parent society on the mainland.

The success of the offshore roll-up funds has shown that investors are prepared to use tax havens extensively.

There is no requirement for Manx institutions to disclose to the British tax authorities, interest paid gross to British residents.

Opec pact fails to allay fears

from David Young

Geneva

Oil companies are expected to decide next week whether to press ahead with demands for a further cut in the North Sea oil output after the decision by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to retain its price and production agreement for another year.

The continued weakness of oil demand and the apparent precariousness of the Opec deal in Geneva have raised fears that the pact could be forced lower in the new year.

In Geneva yesterday Opec, which will next meet at a full ministerial session on July 10, gave Mr Kamal Hassan Maghaur, its new president, authority to call another meeting if he agreed to reach in Geneva turns out to be as fragile as some observers suggest.

The main threat to the agreement is the volatile situation in Iran. Although the Iranian delegation signed yesterday's agreement after telephone consultation with Tehran, it is aware that the position could change.

Iran still feels that it should have been allowed to increase its production quota of 2.4 million barrels a day within the overall Opec quota of 17.5 million barrels a day.

In addition, international oil traders at the Geneva meeting as observers are planning to visit Tehran in the next few weeks to discuss new long-term contracts.

Opec, however, feels that Mr Maghaur, the Libyan Oil Minister, will be more likely to call a meeting of world demand increases in the spring to a level requiring the quotas to be renegotiated upward.

Reaction to the end of the Opec meeting was muted.

US airline staff agree to wage cut

New York (NYT)-Eastern Airlines and three of its unions have reached an agreement that is expected to save the airline \$330m (\$230m) in wages next year and bring it \$37m in productivity gains.

In exchange, the unions will have a considerable say in future management decisions, with two extra union representatives on the board and workers will eventually own about a quarter of the airline's common stock.

Under the agreement, Eastern's non-union employees and members of two unions will give up 18 per cent of their pay next year. The 3,900 members of the Air Line Pilots Association will give up 22 per cent.

Several Wall Street analysts said savings from the wage reductions would help to offset Eastern's losses, which totalled \$128.9m in the first nine months of this year.

Eastern, which is the fourth largest US airline, appealed in September to its 37,500 employees to make further concessions if it was to avoid filing for federal bankruptcy protection as Continental Air Lines had.

In return for the wage savings, Eastern will set up a wage investment programme

Abbey fails to win mortgage rate cut

By Vivien Goldsmith

Abbey National yesterday failed to persuade fellow members of the Building Societies Association to lower its mortgage rate from the present 11.25 per cent.

Although the Abbey National has formally left the rate-fixing cartel it has decided to "go with the tide" for the time being on the mortgage rate.

But it will be stepping up its mortgage lending by about 10 per cent next year, injecting several hundred million pounds into the housing market.

The consensus among building societies is that they cannot cut the mortgage interest rate while there are still mortgage queues, in spite of the boom in receipts.

In October the building societies took in a record £987m. Next week the November figures will be announced and are expected to be about £900m. There is usually a much larger drop in

receipts as savers withdraw money for Christmas shopping. Last year the fall was from £905m in October to £777m in November.

Mr John Ellis, secretary of the Abbey National, said: "We are testing the mortgage market to see what happens. We don't think that the mortgage demand will continue to be as strong as some of our colleagues do."

The Building Societies Association said that when mortgage queues were seen to be shortening in September, it was hoped that they would be cleared by the end of the year. But when it was announced that the queues were shorter more people came to the building societies looking for mortgages.

There was such a clear majority in favour of keeping the present mortgage rate, which has been running since July, that no vote was taken at yesterday's council meeting of the BSA.

Hearne takes oil job

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Government confirmed yesterday that Mr Graham Hearne has been appointed chief executive of Enterprise Oil, the newly created state oil company whose stock market flotation is scheduled for next summer.

Mr Hearne will take up his new job on March 1. Announcing the appointment yesterday Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said he wanted to express the Government's appreciation to Carless Capel Leonard Mr Hearne's present company, for its cooperation.

Panel urges Allianz to name price

By Our Financial Staff

The City Takeover Panel has asked Allianz Versicherungs, the West German insurance group, to name by next Friday the price it intends to bid for Eagle Star.

Allianz has already said it will top the £914m offer from BAT Industries - which is already on the table - but has not yet said by how much.

The panel is said to be increasingly uncomfortable about this and urged Allianz at a meeting last night to make a definite bid early next week.

The price of Eagle Star shares on the stock market yesterday fluctuated wildly.

At one stage the shares fell to 69p on fears that Eagle's continuing hostility to Allianz might persuade the Germans to bow out of the battle. But the shares recovered to close 3p up on the day at 712p - a new high.

The merchant bank financial adviser to BAT Industries, Lazard Brothers, is pressing takeover panels to tie Allianz to a firm date early next week on the grounds that the current situation is creating a false market in Eagle Star shares.

A £5m offer for sale by tender of shares in Eagle Star's highest tech offshoot, VG Instruments, has been a flop. Only half of the 12.5 million shares on offer were applied for at the minimum tender price of 130p. It is the third tender offer to flop within two weeks.

Dollar at new peak

The dollar hit fresh peaks on world currency markets yesterday, spurred by higher interest rates and reports that Mr Donald Reagan, the US Treasury Secretary, saw little scope for US rates to fall before next spring.

It reached a 10-year "high" against the Deutschmark at DM 2,748.7, a record against the French Franc, at FF 8,325, while its trade-weighted index breached 130 for the first time since August.

The pound sank to \$1.4035 before closing at a lowest-ever \$1.4355 - 60 points down on the day and a loss of more than two cents on the week. Its trade-weighted index gained 0.1 to \$2.6, reflecting a steady performance against European currencies.

Gold shed more than \$13 an ounce to \$338.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 757.1 down 3.1
FT 100s 82.77 down 0.52
FT All Shares 465.33 down 2.70
Saxons 22.620
Datamark USM Leaders Index 95.16 down 0.76
New York Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1258.13 down 3.76
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,448.90 down 12.13
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index 858.39 down 15.47
Amsterdam 158.1 down 0.3
Sydney AO Index 735.8 down 1.2
Frankfurt Commerzbank Index 1014.3 down 9.2
Brussels General Index 130.49 unchanged

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.4355 down 50pts
Index 82.6 up 0.1
DM 3.9475 up 0.0025
FF 11.9925 up 0.02
Yen 339.50 down 1.75

Dollar 130.2 up 0.5
DM 2.7487 up 0.0162

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.4365
Dollar DM 2.7500

INTERNATIONAL

ECU 5.73274
SDR 1.722413

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$388.50 pm \$388.75
close \$388.50-339.25 (\$270.50-271)
New York latest: \$389
Kruggerand (per coin): \$400.50-402 (\$279-280)
Sovereigns (new): \$91.25-92.25 (\$63.50-64.25)
*Excludes VAT



A word to those thinking of investing in Japan

The Japanese word illustrated here is the name on the front door of our office in Tokyo - Fidelity. This is important for our investors. We have had an investment office in Japan since 1969 and our unique team there numbers 25 people, all Japanese nationals.

The investment performance results of this team in Tokyo have been outstanding for our 'offshore' and pension fund investors. And since October 1981 unit trust investors in the UK have been able to benefit through Fidelity Japan Trust.

Up 84% in 12 months

Over the 12 months to 1st December 1983 Fidelity Japan Trust has been one of the top performing of all unit trusts, with the offer price rising 84% (source: 'Planned Savings' and 'Money Management' December). This demonstrates our ability to pick stocks in Japan and to use our flexibility to switch between large and small companies.

Confident outlook

We are confident that the outlook for both the Japanese economy and the Yen looks good. With its strength in consumer products, Japan historically has benefited from an economic upturn. Thus the gathering momentum of the world economy will, we believe, lead to outstanding investment opportunities in the Japan

stock market. We also expect the Yen to strengthen giving an additional bonus to investors.

Fidelity's strength around the world

Fidelity is one of the largest independent investment management groups in the world, with a research team of 100 top professionals worldwide, and offices in Boston, Hong Kong, London, New York and Tokyo. Fidelity has the strength in depth needed to capitalise on investment opportunities wherever they occur - including, obviously, Japan.

Fidelity Japan Trust

This trust aims to produce maximum capital growth from a portfolio chosen from the total range of investments available in Japan. Since launch in October 1981 to 8th December 1983 the unit offer price has risen 120% compared with a rise of 57% in the Tokyo New Index (currency adjusted).

How to invest

Simply complete the coupon below and post it to us with your cheque. Fidelity Investor Services welcomes your telephone enquiries for advice and further information on Fidelity (0732) 361111 or Freephone Fidelity. Remember the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

FIDELITY JAPAN TRUST

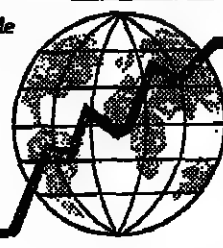
To: Fidelity International Management Limited, Dealing and Administration Office, River Walk, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 1DY
Tel: Tonbridge (0732) 362222

I wish to invest £

in Fidelity Japan Trust accumulation units at the offer price ruling on receipt of my enclosed cheque made payable to Fidelity International Management Limited.

(Minimum initial investment is £500)
I would like further information.

Signature (for the use of proof application all must sign)
Surname MR/MRS/MISS (initial letters please)
First names
Address
Post Code



Fidelity INTERNATIONAL

WALL STREET

Lower trend continues

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street stock prices were lower in active trading as the market continued a selloff of recent days.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which dropped nearly 12 points on Thursday, was about one point to about 1261 in early trading yesterday.

Mattel fell 1/8 to 5-3/8 after reporting a large third-quarter loss and saying it expected a deficit in the next quarter.

Blue chip stocks were aided by the strong performance of IBM shares.

IBM, which on Thursday predicted a 14 per cent rise in 1984 sales, was up 2-1/4 to 121. The company also said it would repurchase some stock.

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9%
Discount market loans week fixed 9
3 month interbank 9/2-9/8

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10/16-10/16
3 month DM 6/16-8/18
3 month Fr 13-12-4/12

US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9/8
Treasury long bond 100/332-100/332

ECB Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period November 2 to December 6, 1983 inclusive: 9.350 per cent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Broker may widen field

W. Greenwell, one of Britain's top 10 stockbroking firms yesterday confirmed the report in The Times that it was in talks which may lead to non-Stock Exchange members taking a significant stake.

Greenwell have set up a special executive committee to review its future strategy against the proposed changes in Stock Exchange rules which are designed to open the market to wider participation. It promises to no immediate announcement what it sees as desirable and what is practical.

The directors of Stone-

house Holdings have told shareholders to reject the £53m bid made by Reed Stenhouse, Canadian associates. But Mr Bert Houghton, a former chief executive of the Glasgow insurance broker who has resigned as a director is expected to advise shareholders on Monday to accept the Reed terms.

The Stenhouse directors say in the defence document that they "have made a number of interested parties aware that we would give serious consideration to an alternative offer." But so far, after nearly a month, no counter-bidder has appeared.

Employees buy back company for £5m

Amari plans return to SE

By Jeremy Warner

The Amari Group, an aluminium extrusion and distribution company, is planning to return to the stock market for a share quote after an absence more than 10 years.

In 1972 Amari was swallowed by the big mining exploration group Selection Trust after a £3.3m bid. This in turn was acquired by British Petroleum for more than £420m in 1980.

Now, after a year of complex negotiations, staff and management have succeeded - with the backing of four City institutions - in buying the company back for £5m.

Over 260 of the group's 1,400 employees put up a minimum of £1,000 each for a combined stake of 52 per cent. Four

institutions, County Bank, ICF, Moracrest and West Midlands County Council pension fund, have put up £4m of the purchase price for 48 per cent of the ordinary shares and a block of preference capital.

The company is planning to float on the Stock Exchange next year. Stockbroker Kitcat & Aitken, which has been advising the directors and employees throughout the negotiations, has set up a share trust which will provide a limited market in the shares for employees.

This is similar to the share dealing facility which was made available to employees in the National Freight Corporation bought from the Government by its staff for £53m in 1981.

The majority of Amari's business is in Britain but the group also has small subsidiaries in Canada, Germany and the Netherlands. Pre-tax profits this year are estimated at £2m against little more than breakeven in 1982 while sales will top £140m.

Amari has 22 stockholdings outlets throughout the country, a big manufacturing facility at Sanoquhar in Dumfriesshire and smaller ones near Newcastle and in Staffordshire.

Mrs Brenda Langley, the group's finance director, said yesterday prospects for 1984 are "excellent". Gross assets at the end of 1983 are expected to total £57m.

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Shares deal

Harrow Building Society is offering 8.75 per cent net of basic rate tax on "Additional Interest Shares" or 8.5 per cent on Monthly Income investments. Further details from Harrow Building Society.

Millionaires' card

American Express Bank is introducing a luxury travel service aimed at ultra-rich businessmen holding one of the bank's gold cards. Called Premier Services, it includes 24-hour emergency travel arrangements, chauffeured limousines, medical assistance and a number of other facilities for the businessman abroad. The service is not available to holders of gold cards issued by other banks and is aimed at customers in the dollar-millionaire bracket. They are given the telephone number of a multilingual representative of the bank in Paris, New York, Miami and London who makes the required arrangements.

apply for the service. They will be told if they are eligible.

Late arrival

An offshore managed currency fund from the European Banking Company seems to have missed the boat. It was launched this week - three weeks after the Chancellor announced a clampdown on offshore currency funds.

"The directors of the fund believe that the fund should offer an attractive investment opportunity, even though it is proposed that with effect from January 1, 1984, gains accruing to investors liable to UK taxation on disposals of shares, will be charged as income," says the publicity blurb.

EBC correctly points out that the liability to income tax will be on dividends only until an investment in the fund is realised. Meanwhile, profits in the fund will roll-up tax free.

At least 75 per cent of the fund will be held in currencies and monetary instruments - bank CDs and the like - but the rest will be actively traded with every opportunity for short-term currency gains being taken. Minimum investment is \$1,000.

Trusting in plastic

Plastic money is catching on fast - it not as fast as the banks would like. Figures published this week by Trustcard, Trustee Savings Bank's Visa card, show that there are now 21.6 million credit cards of various types in use in Britain - a rise of 50 per cent over the last five years - and one in three adults is now using them.



Fighting crime

To help combat car crime, Royal Insurance has arranged for holders of its CarShield 30 and CarShield 50 policies to have their vehicle registration number etched into all car windows - free.

The CarShield policies are designed for what Royal describes as "the better driver". Policyholders will be able to go to any one of Autoglass Windshields' centres and, on production of a voucher countersigned by Royal and the

policyholder's current certificate of insurance, have their windows engraved.

Mr John Simpson, of Royal Insurance, commented: "Last year over 300,000 vehicles were stolen in the UK. Many were never recovered. We hope this service will help prevent some of these thefts, in addition to helping with the identification and recovery of stolen vehicles."

Whittingdale Gilt Growth, but not so penal as some.

If you invest over £5,000, the charge drops to only 2 per cent. There is also an annual management charge of a modest 1 per cent. The minimum investment is £200.

Peterborough plan

Investors in the small Peterborough Building Society are to be offered facilities rivaling those already provided by the larger ones of the marketplace, like the Halifax.

Peterborough's Cash Counter Account offers up to 10 standing order payments a month free of charge - and one can run it like a budget account to pay the household bills. There are deposit, withdrawal and balance enquiry facilities at two of Peterborough's city-centre, cash-dispenser machines.

A monthly statement showing all transactions and arrangements for having your monthly salary paid directly into your account with withdrawals immediately available are also provided. The cost of this service is that money invested earns only 6 per cent interest instead of the usual 7.25.

Signal Life
A question of whom investors can sue

Negotiations between insurance brokers who sold bonds for Signal Life, the failed insurer and its professional indemnity insurers will almost certainly come to nothing.

Brokers have been asking client investors who lost money in the collapse of Signal Life to postpone any court action against them for negligence until it has been established whether professional indemnity policies will cover the brokers' liability.

Insurance analysts believe that the professional indemnity insurers will not pay out if the brokers are found to be negligent, because almost all their policies exclude cases where a company has failed.

SAYE
Building societies fall behind

How does a building society-linked Save As You Earn contract compare with an index-linked SAYE scheme from the National Savings? Mr Graham Rumney of Hendon has just cashed in two such plans taken out in November 1978 and has been doing some calculations.

"I took out two SAYE contracts at £20 a month each. For the first I put £1,180 in a share account with the Yorkshire Building Society with a standing order for direct monthly payments into the SAYE account so that the interest accrued on the reducing sum."

"For the second I took out a National Savings index-linked SAYE account with a standing order for monthly payments out of my bank current account," said Mr Rumney.

The amount paid into both SAYE contracts was £1,200.

The building society linked scheme produced £1,480 after five years whereas the index-linked version of SAYE produced £1,526.

He also noticed up £264.74 in interest on the building society scheme as he deposited a lump sum.

But had he done the same with the index-linked SAYE contract, rather than fund it out of his current account, the result would have been £1,744.74 on the building society scheme, compared with £1,791.50 on the index-linked plan.

Pension plans
Early leavers find a champion

Most people's pensions are tied up with their jobs - and that is the problem now under review by the Government.

When people change jobs they leave behind a trail of frozen pensions. The ideal promised by most pension schemes is a pension of two-thirds of final salary - but for most that is a false promise unless they stay in one job all their working life.

An inquiry set up by Mr Norman Fowler, the Services Secretary, is receiving representations and one scheme put forward switches the emphasis so that individuals have the option of a personal pension plan - like the self-employed.

As well as making the scheme infinitely portable - from job to job and from employed to self-employed status - and wiping out the problem of the "early leaver", as the pensions industry calls anyone who ever changes his job, it has an impeccable Thatcherite philosophy.

For the plan being put forward by the Save and Prosper Group gives the individual a high degree of choice. He can choose not only how much to invest beyond the suggested minimum of 12 per cent of earnings (including 6 per cent from an employer in the case of employees).

He can also choose where to invest the money. Save and Prosper in its Blueprint for the

But the gilt bond fund had no trustee and the only course of action open to these investors is to bring an action for negligence against the brokers who sold them.

The brokers have been asking for time to make arrangements with their professional indemnity insurers, though several have admitted liability and paid clients in full.

One analyst said: "These people have little to gain by waiting. If they are successful against their professional adviser and he is unable to pay, they can then make a claim against the Insurance Brokers Registration Council's Grants Scheme."

Payments under the scheme are discretionary. Mr John Fryer, secretary of the IBRC, said: "There is sufficient in the compensation fund to cover Signal Life claims, but I think preference must be given to those people who have used an authorized UK insurance company."

Mr Fryer said: "I would doubt whether professional indemnity insurers regard themselves as being liable in the case of Signal."

Correction
Our apologies to the Vicar of Enfield, the Reverend Peter Morgan, and to the Reverend William Bowder, the curate of Enfield, whom we wrongly described last Saturday as the vicar.

Woody Westminster a poor deal for lollipop savers

Woody Westminster, Anna, Maxwell, Lady Hilary and Sir Nathaniel Westminster are a family of piggy money boxes. NatWest Bank's latest weapon in the battle to attract junior savers.

NatWest is the last of the high street banks to recognize the potential market among the lollipop investors and it has now launched its package of goodies aimed at persuading children from five to 15 that NatWest is the place to save.

But is a NatWest account good value for money for a child? Looking at these junior bank accounts from a purely investment angle, the answer must be an unequivocal no.

Interest at a miserable 5.5 per cent does not begin to compare with the 11 per cent available from the National Savings Bank investment account or the 7.25 to 8.25 per cent from building societies.

It is not even a good as the 7.5 per cent (plus a free money-sorting money box) that Lloyds Bank is offering junior savers.

However, it does have the merit, as do the other schemes, of getting children used to saving and handling their own money, though whether the NatWest incentives will attract new business is difficult to judge.

Children going to NatWest branches with the £3 necessary to open an account will probably be disappointed to discover that they have to fork out £1 straight away to get Woody Westminster the first of the piggy banks.

If £25 is saved within six months of opening the account the child receives the Annabel money box as a reward.

Maxwell, Lady Hilary and Sir Nathaniel Westminster are handed over at the £50, £75 and £100 targets respectively.

There is a regular newsletter and a starter pack containing a money-tree wall chart, account record book and membership card.

Older children can join NatWest's "On Line" account scheme, which encourages them to save for high technology and sports goods available from a mail order handbook.

THE NATWEST PIGGY BANK

A NEW SAVINGS SCHEME FOR CHILDREN



C&G Junior Account



reasonable return, you cannot beat a building society account at the moment. Ordinary share accounts with instant withdrawal facilities pay 7.25 per cent and there are many schemes for children on offer.

In the past a building society was not the most sensible home for children's savings as tax is deducted at source and is not reclaimable by a non-taxpaying child. But at the moment the after-tax return is considerably higher than the rate offered by the high street banks which pay interest without deduction of tax.

Bradford and Bingley's Acorn Account features a "money sorting moneybox" similar to the one Lloyds Bank offers junior savers.

Cheltenham & Gloucester has its Paddington Bear account. Bristol & West has signed up Snoopy to promote its children's accounts, while Abbey has its Junior Savers Account.

For school children, building societies have the advantage of being open on Saturday mornings - and appear less intimidating than the banks.

Two tax points to bear in mind - parents who give money to their own children under the age of 18 will find that any income in excess of £5 from the investments is treated as though it belonged to the parent and added to the parent's income for tax purposes.

Grandparents, godparents or donors other than the child's parent, who regularly give money to a child at Christmas and birthdays, should consider doing this under a deed of covenant.

Every £10 given in this way costs the donor only £7, but is worth £10 to the child's bank. The only requirement is that the donor is not the child's parent, and that the giver is a taxpayer, while the recipient (the child) is not a taxpayer.

Do-it-yourself covenant kits are available.

Lorna Bourke

How to choose an Investment

The bewildering array of investment currently available makes it difficult to choose. However, whatever your needs, aims and circumstances, there is an investment vehicle for you. In this age of inflation, volatile markets, fluctuating interest rates and constantly changing legislation, the choice is critical.

Menzies Mercantile specialise in helping you to make the most of your financial resources. We help you to define your objectives and devise an investment strategy accordingly. Our service doesn't stop there: we continue to monitor your investments, advising when to consolidate profits or take advantage of new investment opportunities available. Maximising your profit whilst ensuring your long term security.

If you have capital or annual income in excess of £30,000 you can benefit from FREE investment advice. As your introduction to our Investment Management Service, Menzies Mercantile will provide you with a detailed written appraisal, showing exactly how you can achieve your personal investment objectives. There is absolutely no charge for this investment appraisal. Choose us and we will make the correct investment choice for you.

Menzies Mercantile is an independent Company, fulfilling the needs of the medium sized investor. We provide a high standard of professional, personalised, financial advice and investment management which is essential in the modern investment environment. For full details, in confidence and without obligation, simply complete and return the coupon.



49 GREAT CUMBERLAND PLACE, LONDON W1H 7JH TEL 01-262 7520/9619
Licensed Dealer in Securities

CONFIDENTIAL REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

To: MENZIES MERCANTILE TEL 01-262 7520/9619
49 GREAT CUMBERLAND PLACE, LONDON W1H 7JH

Please send me further information on your Investment Management Service, without obligation.

NAME (MR, MRS, MISS) _____
(PLEASE PRINT)
ADDRESS _____

COUNTY _____ POST CODE _____
TEL (OFFICE) _____ (HOME) _____
Licensed Dealer in Securities

A Roll-Up Alternative

Barlow Clowes have introduced PORTFOLIO 78 as a realistic alternative for roll-up fund investors. This is what PORTFOLIO 78 offers:

- * An excellent investment service for higher rate taxpayers.
- * Security - your Portfolio will always be in a British Government Stock or cash.
- * A high guaranteed return, stated in advance.
- * The return is a genuine capital gain from the purchase and sale of gilts.
- * These gains are not generated by converting accrued interest into capital gains.
- * Concise monthly statements.
- * Option to take a monthly income.
- * Open ended - withdrawals at any time within 2 working days.

For details, complete and return the coupon without delay.

Barlow Clowes & Partners
Gilt Edged Specialists

To: Barlow Clowes & Partners Warford Court, Thorngrove Street, London EC2N 2AT.
Telephone: 01-588 0838 (24-hour answering service).
Please send me details of PORTFOLIO 78 without obligation.

Name _____
Address _____

What's the next best thing to a roll-up fund?

The Henderson Alternative

Soon UK investors will no longer be able to use currency roll-up funds to turn highly-taxed income into less heavily taxed capital gains. If you're a 'roll-up' investor you're probably already investigating alternative homes for your money. And one alternative which deserves serious consideration is the Henderson Preference and Gilt Trust.

This is an authorised unit trust, managed by the £14 billion Henderson Group, and aiming to provide a very high yield from investments in preference shares and British Government Securities. Roll-up investors will find it of special interest because:

Excellent for a Private Investor

Currency roll-up funds have provided good security and have converted modest yields into more attractive gains. The yield on Henderson's Preference and Gilt Trust cannot be converted into a capital gain - but on the other hand it is far from modest. Indeed, at 11.5% gross, it is well above that available on most roll-up funds (and alternative investments) and this difference will help to compensate for the extra tax liability involved.

Unlike roll-up funds it also offers the possibility of some capital appreciation.

And so far as security is concerned, since the fund is invested exclusively in preference shares and gilts it is likely to prove a relatively stable investment.

You should note however that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

Even better for a Company

As a home for corporate funds, Henderson Preference and Gilt Trust offers an additional major advantage. Income received by the Trust from preference shares is not liable to Corporation Tax. Income is paid to unit holders net with a 30% tax credit. An investment taxable at 52% would therefore need to yield 16.7% gross to achieve the same return.

Invest on favourable terms

Until 30th December 1983, units in the Henderson Preference and Gilt Trust are available at a discount of 1% on the price prevailing on receipt of your application. To invest simply return the application form below together with your remittance - either direct or through your professional advisor.

Henderson Preference & Gilt Trust

11.5% P.A.
Gross estimated yield. Payable quarterly.

Additional Information
An initial charge of 5% of the value of the units is made by the Manager, when units are issued. The charge is available on request. The Trust does not allow for an annual charge of 2% (plus VAT) on the value of the units to be deducted from the gross income to cover administration costs. Distributions of income will be paid on 1 February, 1 May, 1 August and 1 November net of basic rate tax. The next distribution will be paid on 1 February 1984. Unit holders will be issued and sent a certificate within 8 weeks of payment. To sell units, advise your unit certificate and send it to the Manager. Payment will normally be made within 7 working days. Unit holders will not pay this tax up a discount of units under the total realised gains from all sources, within any tax year amount to more than £3,300. Prices and yield can be found daily in the Financial Times.

Trustee: Williams & Glyn's Bank plc
Manager: Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, 25 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 4DA (R-registered Office Reg No. 188262). A Member of the Unit Trust Association.

The Henderson Group also manages Pension Funds, Investment Trusts, Investment Bonds, Off-Shore Funds, Exempt Trusts, and Private Client Portfolios.

To: Premier Unit Trust Administration Limited, Dealing Department, 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1AA.
(Units will be issued and sent to you in Henderson Preference and Gilt Trust at the official offer price on the date this application is received by the Managers (minimum initial investment £500). We enclose remittance payable to Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited.

SHARE EXCHANGE SCHEME - Our Share Exchange Scheme provides a favourable way to switch into this Unit Trust. For details please tick box or call Peter Frost on 01-638 6767. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____
Forename(s) _____
Address _____

Signature(s) _____ Date _____
(If there are joint applicants, all must sign and attach their name and address)

Henderson.
The Investment Managers.

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Another fight for UBM?

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings begin, Monday. Dealings end, Dec 29. Contango Day, Dec 30. Settlement Day, Jan 9.

Hopes were growing last night that the battle for control of the building's merchant, UBM Group, may soon be on again. Shares of Norcor rebounded 6 1/2p to a new "high" of 149 1/2p, amid speculation that it had been approached for its 43.1 per cent stake after failing with its own £75m bid in October. Lord Hanson's Norcor Trust, sitting on about £400m in cash, is tipped as a possible buyer. A spokesman for Norcor commented: "It's just a market rumour. I can't comment on rumours." Shares of UBM held steady at 122 1/2p - just 6p short of the year's "high" - and only 3p below Norcor's 125p cash offer.

At this level, the group is valued at £72m, well within the finances of some of the other bidders. Hanson Trust, Norcor's bid for UBM failed because it could not reach agreement with UBM's other big shareholders, including Colquhoun Holdings, the private arm of Newhall, with 9.5 per cent of the shares and Equity Capital for Industry with 10.2 per cent.

Merchant banker Morgan Grenfell also holds a further 10 per cent of the equity on behalf

of its clients. However, it might prove a different story for Lord Hanson just from his triumph at UDS Group and currently holding 9.4 per cent of

Shares of engineer Christy Bros rose 1p to a new high of 34p as a mystery buyer appeared. Yesterday he bought 30,000 shares, taking his holding to 103,000, or just over 5 per cent. This has led to speculation among Christy's other big shareholders that a bid may be on the way. Clients of broker Simon & Coates own around 40 per cent. Security Growth 23 per cent and the directors 12 per cent. At this level the group is valued at £680,000.

London Brick. Elsewhere, the rest of the equity market ended the account on a subdued note after its recent record-breaking run. With the FT index closing at 3.1 down on the day at 757.1. The renewed weakness of the pound produced falls of up to

75p in gilts, with the Government broker experiencing little demand for the new tranches of

Rio-Tinto Zinc has decided to withdraw its offer for BET's 5 per cent stake in the Maurean Field which came into production in September.

Instead, BET has sold the stake to Century Power & Light, a subsidiary of Imperial Continental Gas and Ultramar, which between them, already own 15 per cent of the Maurean Field. IC Gas and Ultramar have agreed to the same terms, offered to RTZ, valuing BET's stake at £60m.

Shares of BET rose 3p to 27 1/2p on the news. Lord Weinstock's GEC slipped 2p to 193p after confirmation that it was one of a number of companies approached by the Government to purchase into Innos, the state-controlled micro-chip business. GEC said it could take a

stake, or bid for the whole company. But it stressed that no decisions had been taken and it may reject the Government's offer. At the last count, GEC was sitting on a cash mountain of over £1,400m.

Dares Estates has decided to remove the threat of a possible bid from Mr Swan's Paul's Caparo Investments by buying him out. The chairman and managing director of Dares have between them paid 28p a share for Caparo's 4.2 million shares - 13.8 per cent of the total. Dares responded with a 2p rise to 20p yesterday.

Boots slipped 3p to 179p after 175p, after hearing of the Government's proposals to claw-back some of the huge profits earned by drug companies supplying the National Health Service. But broker Zoete & Bevan is still tipping the shares as a "buy". Zoete reckons the shares should

perform well over the next six months.

Two more newcomers joined the Unlisted Securities Market yesterday, bringing this week's total to four. Kenyon Securities, the funeral services group, opened at 168p, compared to the placing price of 139p. The shares ended the day at 170p - a premium of 31p.

Brokers Williams de Broe placed the 300,000 shares, about 22 per cent of the issued total. At this level, Kenyon is valued at £2.5m.

But High-Point Services, the professional advisory, management and financial services group, made a disappointing debut after broker Coni Gilbert & Sankey placed 994,000 shares at 137p. They opened at 139p and closed at 140p - a premium of 3p.

Shares of Fitch & Co., the interior design consultant, slipped 5p to 255p after Mr Ron Baker, managing director, announced his intention to resign for personal reasons.

Mr Rodney Fitch, the chairman, and fellow director Mr Crispin Tweddell, will become joint managing directors.

INVESTORS NOTEBOOK

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

EVERY DAY

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
100	100	100	Admiral	100	0	0	0	0
101	101	101	Admiral	101	0	0	0	0
102	102	102	Admiral	102	0	0	0	0
103	103	103	Admiral	103	0	0	0	0
104	104	104	Admiral	104	0	0	0	0
105	105	105	Admiral	105	0	0	0	0
106	106	106	Admiral	106	0	0	0	0
107	107	107	Admiral	107	0	0	0	0
108	108	108	Admiral	108	0	0	0	0
109	109	109	Admiral	109	0	0	0	0
110	110	110	Admiral	110	0	0	0	0

SHIPPING

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
111	111	111	Admiral	111	0	0	0	0
112	112	112	Admiral	112	0	0	0	0
113	113	113	Admiral	113	0	0	0	0
114	114	114	Admiral	114	0	0	0	0
115	115	115	Admiral	115	0	0	0	0

MINES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
116	116	116	Admiral	116	0	0	0	0
117	117	117	Admiral	117	0	0	0	0
118	118	118	Admiral	118	0	0	0	0
119	119	119	Admiral	119	0	0	0	0
120	120	120	Admiral	120	0	0	0	0

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
121	121	121	Admiral	121	0	0	0	0
122	122	122	Admiral	122	0	0	0	0
123	123	123	Admiral	123	0	0	0	0
124	124	124	Admiral	124	0	0	0	0
125	125	125	Admiral	125	0	0	0	0

INSURANCE

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
126	126	126	Admiral	126	0	0	0	0
127	127	127	Admiral	127	0	0	0	0
128	128	128	Admiral	128	0	0	0	0
129	129	129	Admiral	129	0	0	0	0
130	130	130	Admiral	130	0	0	0	0

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
131	131	131	Admiral	131	0	0	0	0
132	132	132	Admiral	132	0	0	0	0
133	133	133	Admiral	133	0	0	0	0
134	134	134	Admiral	134	0	0	0	0
135	135	135	Admiral	135	0	0	0	0

PROPERTY

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
136	136	136	Admiral	136	0	0	0	0
137	137	137	Admiral	137	0	0	0	0
138	138	138	Admiral	138	0	0	0	0
139	139	139	Admiral	139	0	0	0	0
140	140	140	Admiral	140	0	0	0	0

PLANTATIONS

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
141	141	141	Admiral	141	0	0	0	0
142	142	142	Admiral	142	0	0	0	0
143	143	143	Admiral	143	0	0	0	0
144	144	144	Admiral	144	0	0	0	0
145	145	145	Admiral	145	0	0	0	0

MISCELLANEOUS

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
146	146	146	Admiral	146	0	0	0	0
147	147	147	Admiral	147	0	0	0	0
148	148	148	Admiral	148	0	0	0	0
149	149	149	Admiral	149	0	0	0	0
150	150	150	Admiral	150	0	0	0	0

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
151	151	151	Admiral	151	0	0	0	0
152	152	152	Admiral	152	0	0	0	0
153	153	153	Admiral	153	0	0	0	0
154	154	154	Admiral	154	0	0	0	0
155	155	155	Admiral	155	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
156	156	156	Admiral	156	0	0	0	0
157	157	157	Admiral	157	0	0	0	0
158	158	158	Admiral	158	0	0	0	0
159	159	159	Admiral	159	0	0	0	0
160	160	160	Admiral	160	0	0	0	0

BRITISH FUNDS

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
161	161	161	Admiral	161	0	0	0	0
162	162	162	Admiral	162	0	0	0	0
163	163	163	Admiral	163	0	0	0	0
164	164	164	Admiral	164	0	0	0	0
165	165	165	Admiral	165	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
166	166	166	Admiral	166	0	0	0	0
167	167	167	Admiral	167	0	0	0	0
168	168	168	Admiral	168	0	0	0	0
169	169	169	Admiral	169	0	0	0	0
170	170	170	Admiral	170	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
171	171	171	Admiral	171	0	0	0	0
172	172	172	Admiral	172	0	0	0	0
173	173	173	Admiral	173	0	0	0	0
174	174	174	Admiral	174	0	0	0	0
175	175	175	Admiral	175	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
176	176	176	Admiral	176	0	0	0	0
177	177	177	Admiral	177	0	0	0	0
178	178	178	Admiral	178	0	0	0	0
179	179	179	Admiral	179	0	0	0	0
180	180	180	Admiral	180	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
181	181	181	Admiral	181	0	0	0	0
182	182	182	Admiral	182	0	0	0	0
183	183	183	Admiral	183	0	0	0	0
184	184	184	Admiral	184	0	0	0	0
185	185	185	Admiral	185	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
186	186	186	Admiral	186	0	0	0	0
187	187	187	Admiral	187	0	0	0	0
188	188	188	Admiral	188	0	0	0	0
189	189	189	Admiral	189	0	0	0	0
190	190	190	Admiral	190	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
191	191	191	Admiral	191	0	0	0	0
192	192	192	Admiral	192	0	0	0	0
193	193	193	Admiral	193	0	0	0	0
194	194	194	Admiral	194	0	0	0	0
195	195	195	Admiral	195	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
196	196	196	Admiral	196	0	0	0	0
197	197	197	Admiral	197	0	0	0	0
198	198	198	Admiral	198	0	0	0	0
199	199	199	Admiral	199	0	0	0	0
200	200	200	Admiral	200	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Div	Yld
201	201	201	Admiral	201	0	0	0	0
202	202	202	Admiral	202	0	0	0	0
203	203	203	Admiral	203	0	0	0	0
204	204	204	Admiral	204	0	0	0	0
205	205	205	Admiral	205	0	0	0	0

RECENT ISSUES

1982/83	
---------	--

CURLING
WARTERNAAS: Women's group C play-off:
 Norway bt Sweden 6-4 Sweden bt France 4-3
 Norway Sweden qualified for semi-finals.

CURLING Women's group C play-off: Norway bt Sweden 6-4 Sweden bt France 4-3 Norway Sweden qualified for semi-finals.

SKIING
T IN WORK. West Germany: Women's four-man World Cup, 25. 1. K. Jarosch (Czech) 17:01.90; 2. A. Pastergauer (Austria) 17:02.40; 3. T. Markkula (Finland) 17:17.00.

Other world-bee challengers to Heizer's position came and went. Urs Raeber, another Swiss, was first to the first intermediate point and to the second, but could not match his

Wenzel (Austria) 25; 6. Raeber and Posthoorn 24.

NATIONS CUP: 1. Austria, 218 pts; 2. West Germany, 197; 3. Switzerland, 177; 4. Sweden, 176; 5. West Germany, 167; 6. United States, 37.

CURLING
WOMEN'S Group C play-off:
 Norway bt Sweden 6-4 Sweden bt France 4-3
 Norway Sweden qualified for semi-finals.

SKIING
T IN WANKL, West Germany: Women's cross-country World Cup. (Skis). 1. K Jarlov (Czech) 17:01.90; 2. A Pasiarova (Czech) 19:40; 3. T Markischanskaja (USSR) 21:11.70.

Other would-be challengers to Heinzer's position came and went. Urs Raebler, another Swiss, was first to the first intermediate point and to the second, but could not match his

WRESTLING: Women's group C play-off: Norway beat Sweden 6-4 Sweden beat France 4-3 Norway Sweden qualified for semi-finals.

Norway Sweden qualified for semi-finals.

1

PLO say Israel is blocking exodus

From Our Own Correspondent
Beirut

A short and largely ineffective bombardment of Palestinian positions in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli by Israeli gunboats prompted Mr Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization officials to claim yesterday that Israel wanted to prevent the evacuation of Palestinian guerrillas.

Mr Arafat's spokesman went so far as to say the short raid had "cut the road between Tripoli and the world" although the Israelis said later that they were not trying to prevent the evacuation.

Israeli naval gunfire killed one guerrilla during the night attack and wounded two more but otherwise did little damage. Elsewhere in the Lebanon, it was a day of almost routine fighting. Shia Muslim gunmen opened fire on American Marines during the morning, wounding one of them, while Syrian anti-aircraft guns in the Bekaa Valley shot at Israeli jets flying near their positions.

A Syrian military spokesman in Damascus said one of the aircraft was hit — he significantly did not say it had been shot down — and that an Israeli "air target" was destroyed south-west of Tartus in north-west Syria. The latter was presumably a pilotless reconnaissance drone. If the report is true, it would be the first such reconnaissance operation carried out by the small aircraft in that part of Syria.

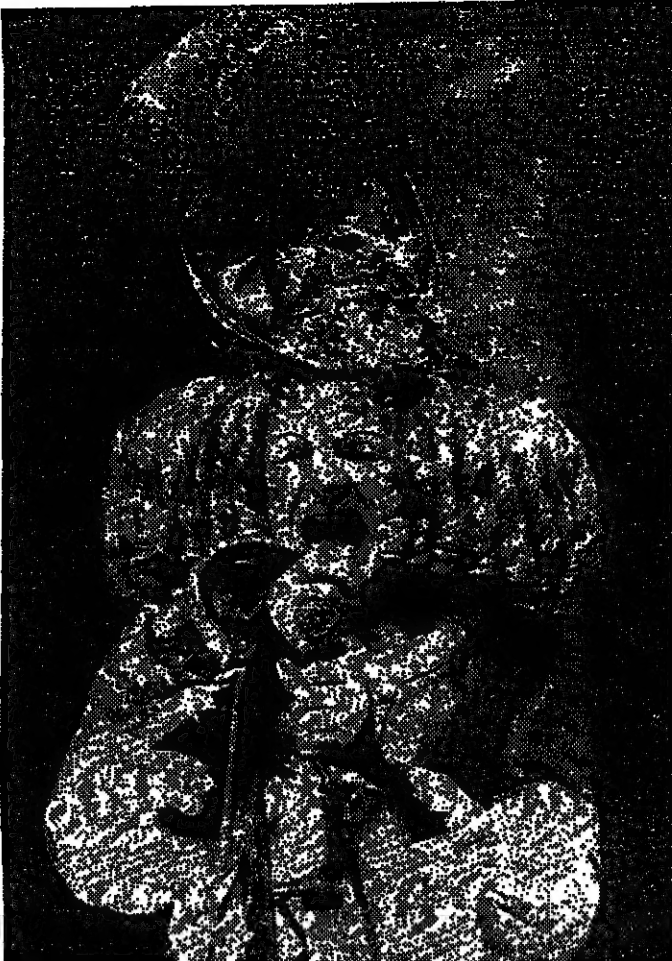
● **JERUSALEM:** The Israeli Cabinet is expected to discuss the military options for preventing Mr Arafat from leaving Tripoli when it meets in Jerusalem tomorrow (Christopher Walker writes).

● **BRUSSELS:** Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, yesterday came out in favour of the evacuation of the PLO from Tripoli (Ian Murray writes).

"Evacuation, and anything that will help cure the problem (of foreign forces in Lebanon) is something we favour", he said.



Robert Stephens as Euphoria



Derek Newark as Gloria



Prince Charming: Susan Fleetwood

British pantomime returns

By David Hewson

Two years ago the traditional British pantomime was pronounced dead. Now the painted dames, sackcloth horses, and leggy principal boys are sufficiently back in fashion to give their customary reply — "oh no, it isn't".

Four pantomimes, if you count Peter Pan, are being presented in the West End of London during the holiday, more than any Christmas for a decade.

Last year, nearly a quarter of a million theatregoers flocked to the West End after Christmas. Bookings for the period are running so high that most of the shows are expected to sell out in the next few days.

The flourishing pantomime business is reflected in the provinces where the Christmas show is frequently the one profitable highlight in the theatrical year.

Advance bookings for the pantomime at the Theatre Royal, in the East End of London, had reached 25,000 by the end of July, and stood at 38,000 by the beginning of this month. Local firms, schools and unions have bought whole houses. Mr Mark Borkowski, the theatre's spokesman, said this week: "Frankly, I am having trouble fitting the press in."

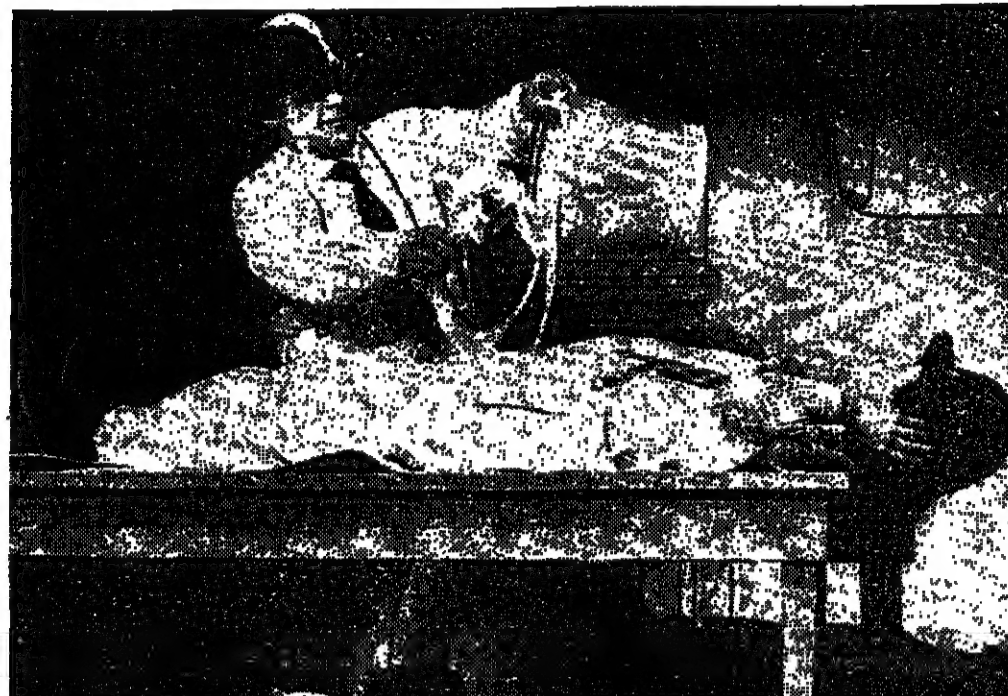
One of Britain's leading pantomime impresarios, Mr Paul Elliott, is promoting 13 shows from London to Belfast, and two abroad, in Canada and Zimbabwe.

The National Theatre has entered the pantomime business for the first time this year with Cinderella. Its director, Mr Bill Bryden, said that the production, which opens on December 15, will have its quota of ugly sisters and standard pantomime jokes. "We have been trying to do a

panto for years but have only just got around to it. I just think it is a good opportunity to get back to some of the kind of values and performances that aren't associated with television or modern influences, to try to tell a fairy story. It is innocent, simple entertainment."

The National has searched Edwardian and Victorian archives to come up with authentic scripts and the pantomime will not contain topical jokes, unlike many of its rivals and the popular Royal Shakespeare Company adult pantomime-cum-musical *Poppy* at the Adelphi.

Whether the box office promises of the rash of new shows will be kept through January is something which will continue to give impresarios sleepless nights. But for the moment, they are happy to welcome the successful pantomime back into the theatrical fold.



The 'slosh scene': Anthony Trent and Stephen Petcher

Weekend decision faced by NGA

(Continued from page 1)

it resumed picketing of his Winwick Quay plant. "We have the law to defend us."

Times Newspapers, publishers of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* and News Group Newspapers, publishers of *The Sun* and the *News of the World* were yesterday granted interlocutory injunctions restraining the NGA from picketing or persuading employees to break their contracts of employment. The orders were made by Mr Justice Canley in the High Court in London. Other Fleet Street newspaper publishers were granted similar injunctions last week.

Mr Wade said last night that the Messenger Group had rejected his union's attempt to solve the dispute through negotiation. "Mr Shah, in taking this step, completely ignored and rejected the NGA's willingness to talk day and night to reach a negotiated settlement and to continue a truce for another seven days."

"His actions show that a maverick employer like Mr Shah can use the Government's employment legislation against NGA members to depress their wages and employment conditions, victimize them and at the same time destroy the union."

Peace talks under the auspices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service broke down early yesterday after four days. The main sticking point appeared to be the union's insistence on a closed shop for all Mr Shah's print workers.

Asked if there had been any significant shifts, Mr Shah said: "Not really. We have given on things and they have given on things, but we have always got back to the principle of the closed shop and there is no easy solution to that."

The Institute of Directors, which has reportedly been advising Mr Shah, accused the NGA of failing to negotiate in good faith. Mr Walter Goldsmith, director-general of the institute called on the TUC to restrain the union from further unlawful action.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New exhibitions
South Yorkshire Open Art Exhibition, Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsley, Yorkshire: 1 to 5.30, Wed to Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Mon (ends Jan 8).
What is Conservation? an exhibition looking at conservation of historic artefacts, James Dun's House, 61 School Hill, Aberdeen: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends Jan 7).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,300
ACROSS
1. Take Peter's pills to become bats (12).
9. Drawing out notecase (9).
10. Feature about love and the marriage (5).
11. See boy concerning a reversal of an electrode (6).
12. Scheme to upset spila in the middle (8).
13. Embrace? No, fed wildly (6).
14. Loose conduct in such property (8).
15. Giving everything to be paid (8).
16. Lower rank Roman to be between the sides (6).
17. The Spanish girl has a jolly abundant count (8).
18. Increase for worthless youngster (4,2).
19. Fireside game? (5).
20. "Let it alone; let's to — come, Charmin' (4 and C) (9).
21. Do immature inventors make good horticulturists? (5,7).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,306
A prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times Crossword Competition, 12 Entry Street, London WC9P 9TT. The winners and solutions will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are:
Mrs A. B. Johnson, 32 Darley Crescent, Truro, Ayrshire; R. T. Denison, 199 Drake Street, Rochdale, Lancashire; W. C. Layton, 19 Malvern Park Avenue, Solihull, W. Midlands.
Name _____
Address _____

DOWN
1. Bishop is still extant, presumably (7).
2. Keep not oven to help in making (5).
3. FA caps Owl involved in naval base (5,4).
4. Philosopher in the plant, say (4).
5. General Committee measure to stop drift (3,5).
6. Hemingway almost gets the bird? More than one (5).
7. Game for dim 10 perhaps (8).
8. Come to the top and carry out (16).
9. Sovereign's Latin title likely to be confused in February (4,4).
10. Performance by Ko-Ko? (9).
11. Can't be taken in, even by gnomes for punishment (8).
12. Where a chestnut-muncher's husband had gone (6).
13. Lies about puzzles (7).
14. Russell's dichotomy in basic education is not so common (5).
15. Point in simple contract (5).
16. This fixes the pitch when it is almost fissured (4).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 17

Christmas carols

Today
Lincoln Choral Christmas Concert, Lincoln Minster, 7.30pm.
Cantata Club perform Six Carols of Carol Waterbach Parish Church, Cambridge, 8.00pm.
A seasonal organ recital by Gillian Ward Russell, St Peter-Ad-Vincula Church, Coggeshall, 8.00pm.
Rochester Choral Society concert, Rochester Cathedral, 7.30pm.
Concert of Christmas music and rare carols, by the Chantry Singers, St Stephens Church, Lansdowne, Bath, (tel: 333527).

Tomorrow
Christmas Carol Concert, St Mary's Church, Bampton, Oxfordshire, 7.30pm.
Society for Shrewsbury School Community Choir, Shrewsbury Abbey, Shrewsbury, 7.30pm.
Thaxted Festival Orchestra and Band of the 1st Queen's Dragoon Guards perform Handel's "Messiah", Thaxted Church, Essex, 6.30pm.

General
Bath Postcard and Stamp Fair, Manser Street, Church Hill, Bath, 10 to 4.30.
Ceremony of the lighting of the Christmas Tree, The Precinct, Bath, 3.30.
Annual Christmas Fair, Guildhall, Bath, 10.30 to 3.30.

Music

Organ recital by Michael Smith, 1.10, at concert by Huddersfield Choral Society, 7.30, St David's Hall, Cardiff.
Concert by Birmingham Bach Society, Birmingham Cathedral, 7.30.
Concert by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, with Roger Norrington, and Philip Fowke, Wessex Hall, Poole Arts Centre, Bournemouth, 7.30.

General

Bath Postcard and Stamp Fair, Manser Street, Church Hill, Bath, 10 to 4.30.
Ceremony of the lighting of the Christmas Tree, The Precinct, Bath, 3.30.
Annual Christmas Fair, Guildhall, Bath, 10.30 to 3.30.

Tomorrow

Last chance to see
Sculptures by Giulio Cinaglia at the Barbican Sculpture Court at the Barbican Centre, EC2; Sun noon to dusk (ends today).
Summer Days — winter exhibition by members of the West Oxfordshire Arts Association, the Arts Centre, Town Hall, Bampton, Oxon; Sun 2.30 to 4.30 (ends today).
"Taunton Cider — the history of the English drinking mug, exhibition at the Cornham Museum, Chichester Sun 2 to 5 (ends today).
Hemingway almost gets the bird? More than one (5).
Game for dim 10 perhaps (8).
Come to the top and carry out (16).
Sovereign's Latin title likely to be confused in February (4,4).
Performance by Ko-Ko? (9).
Can't be taken in, even by gnomes for punishment (8).
Where a chestnut-muncher's husband had gone (6).
Lies about puzzles (7).
Russell's dichotomy in basic education is not so common (5).
Point in simple contract (5).
This fixes the pitch when it is almost fissured (4).

General

Antiques Fair, Winter Gardens, Weston-Super-Mare, 10.30 to 4.30.
Tyneside Cinema celebrates 20 years of Doctor Who, the Beginnings (Doctor — William Hartnell); the First Ever Doctor Who story as shown as BBC Television in 1963; 2 and 4.30pm, Tyneside Cinema, 10/12 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Roads

Midlands A42: Roadworks on Wellesbourne — Stow road at Halford, Warwickshire. A38: Two-way traffic on one carriageway on Burton Upon Trent bypass, Staffordshire, diversion at Clay Mills. A446: Roadworks at junction with A4091 at Moxhall Island, or Meridest, diversion at Clay Mills. A6110: Roadworks at junction with A45 Woodon A43 to M1 (junction 16) — Daventry/Northington.
North A637: Bailey bridge in use on Barnsley Road between Darnley and Barnsley, traffic lights, delays expected. A6110: Roadworks along existing carriageway on Leeds southern ring road, delays. A17: Two-way traffic on one carriageway between Fairburn and Micklefield, West Yorkshire.
South A83: Single-line traffic, lights 24 hours 4 miles south of Brighton. A9: Single lane traffic south of Blair Atholl.
Information supplied by AA

Anniversaries

Cesar Franck was born at Liège, 1822. Death: Alfred Nobel, industrialist and founder of the Nobel prizes, San Remo, 1896. Sir Joseph Hooker, botanist, Sunningdale, Berkshire, 1911. Luigi Prandelli, dramatist and novelist, Nobel laureate 1934, Rome, 1936. Abdication of Edward VIII and accession of George VI, 1936.
TOMORROW
Births: Sir David Brewster, physicist, Jedburgh, 1781; Hector Berlioz, La Côte-Saint-André, 1803; Alfred de Musset, poet, Paris, 1810; Robert Koch, bacteriologist, Clausen, Germany, 1843.

In the garden

Birds are desperate in frosty times so if you put out food and water for them they may helpfully do less damage to the buds of our fruit trees and bushes, as well as ornamental trees and shrubs. In gardens where there are many finches, tits and sparrows it would pay to spray the trees and bushes with a bird repellent based on aluminium ammonium sulphate.
Figs seem to be on the increase in some parts and can wreck a planting of winter brassicas. Large-mesh plastic netting is available to protect these crops; the ordinary 'in net' we use for soft fruit is not suitable as snow will not fall through it.
It also pays to spray Christmas trees with an anti-desiccant such as Secon to prevent needle drop; also, cut evergreens like ivy to prevent shrivelling. It is wise also to spray recently planted evergreen shrubs and wallflowers with Secon to reduce damage by bitter drying winds.

The papers

The Washington Post says that the meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Geneva "gives no assurance at all regarding the stability of next year's oil prices. Opec says that its prices will remain unchanged until 1984, that, you will recognize, is a promise rather than a promise. Opec is wishing itself a happy and prosperous new year. Since two of Opec's members, Iran and Iraq, are at war with each other, the atmosphere in the meetings is hardly conducive to trust and unity. Among Opec's customers, there is a tendency to celebrate its internal troubles and to see in them the prospect of steadily declining oil prices... a more likely consequence is continuing uncertainty and turbulence in one Middle Eastern war — the one in Lebanon — to the neglect of the other."

© TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED. Printed and published by Times Newspapers Ltd, 1, Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 3DF. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

Weather

A cold northerly airstream will cover Britain. Most districts will have wintry showers, chiefly in northern and eastern districts where icy roads and drifting of any snow will occur in strong winds.

6 am to midnight
London, SE, central S England, E, W Midlands: Sunny and clear periods, perhaps a few wintry showers; frost and icy roads later; winds NW fresh to strong decreasing later; max temp 3 to 5C (37 to 41F).
East Angles, E, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Frequent snow showers, bright intervals; icy roads, drifting; frost; winds N backing NW strong to gale, moderating later; max temp 2 to 3C (36 to 37F).
Channel Islands, SW, NW England, S, W Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Scattered wintry showers, drying out later, sunny or clear periods; frost and icy roads; winds NW backing W fresh decreasing light later; max temp 4 to 5C (39 to 41F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Continuing cold and changeable with overnight frosts.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind N strong to gale, backing NW moderate to fresh; sea very rough, becoming slight to moderate. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NE strong to gale, decreasing moderate or fresh; sea very rough becoming slight to moderate.

Sun rises: 7.54am
Sun sets: 3.52pm
Moon rises: 12.20pm
Moon sets: 9.36pm
First Quarter December 12.

TOMORROW
Sun rises: 7.56am
Sun sets: 3.52pm
Moon rises: 12.38pm
Moon sets: 10.45pm
First Quarter Tomorrow.

Charity card shops

For a list of shops run by the Charity Christmas Card Council, which represents 80 national charities, write to: The Charity Christmas Card Council, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL (enclosing a SAE).
The 1959 Group of Charities sells cards in aid of 20 major charities from temporary locations in many towns and cities throughout the country. A full list is available from the 1959 Group of Charities address as for CCCC, above, marking your enquiry and see "provincial shops".

The pound

	Bank	Bank	Bank
	Buys	Sells	
Australia \$	1.64	1.54	
Austria Sch	28.95	27.35	
Belgium Fr	83.50	79.50	
Canada \$	8.85	8.78	
Denmark Kr	14.82	14.12	
Finland Mk	8.73	8.33	
France Fr	12.30	11.80	
Germany DM	4.08	3.89	
Greece Dr	161.00	151.80	
Hongkong \$	11.50	10.90	
India Rupee	12.30	12.25	
Italy Lira	2460.00	2350.00	
Japan Yen	351.00	333.00	
Netherlands Gld	4.59	4.36	
Norway Kr	11.60	11.00	
Portugal Esc	195.00	185.00	
Spain Ptas	1.90	1.67	
Sweden Kr	233.50	223.50	
Switzerland Fr	12.00	11.40	
USA \$	3.20	3.12	
Yugoslavia Dnr	1.47	1.42	

Rates for small denominations bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd.
Retail Price Index: 340.7
London: The FT Index closed down 3.1 at 757.1.

Weather

A cold northerly airstream will cover Britain. Most districts will have wintry showers, chiefly in northern and eastern districts where icy roads and drifting of any snow will occur in strong winds.

6 am to midnight
London, SE, central S England, E, W Midlands: Sunny and clear periods, perhaps a few wintry showers; frost and icy roads later; winds NW fresh to strong decreasing later; max temp 3 to 5C (37 to 41F).
East Angles, E, central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Frequent snow showers, bright intervals; icy roads, drifting; frost; winds N backing NW strong to gale, moderating later; max temp 2 to 3C (36 to 37F).
Channel Islands, SW, NW England, S, W Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Scattered wintry showers, drying out later, sunny or clear periods; frost and icy roads; winds NW backing W fresh decreasing light later; max temp 4 to 5C (39 to 41F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Continuing cold and changeable with overnight frosts.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind N strong to gale, backing NW moderate to fresh; sea very rough, becoming slight to moderate. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NE strong to gale, decreasing moderate or fresh; sea very rough becoming slight to moderate.

Sun rises: 7.54am
Sun sets: 3.52pm
Moon rises: 12.20pm
Moon sets: 9.36pm
First Quarter December 12.

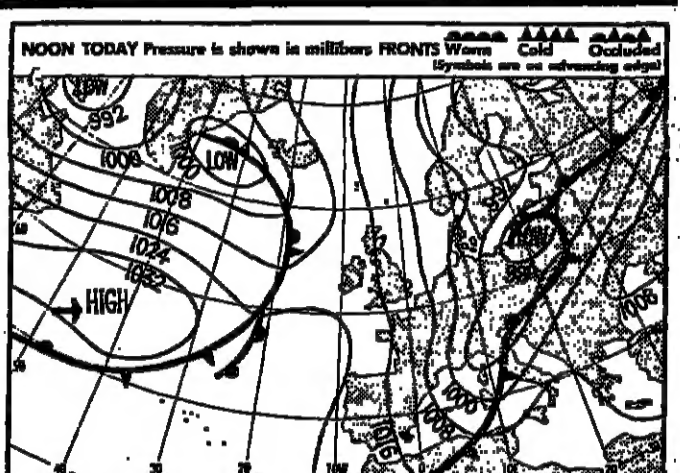
TOMORROW
Sun rises: 7.56am
Sun sets: 3.52pm
Moon rises: 12.38pm
Moon sets: 10.45pm
First Quarter Tomorrow.

Lighting-up time

	Today	Tomorrow
London	4.22 pm to 7.28 am	4.22 pm to 7.28 am
Edinburgh	4.09 pm to 7.05 am	4.09 pm to 7.05 am
Manchester	4.20 pm to 7.44 am	4.20 pm to 7.44 am
Penzance	4.50 pm to 7.41 am	4.50 pm to 7.41 am

Around Britain

	Sun	Rain	Mix
Scarborough	-2.15	8.48	Rain
Blackpool	-2.45	8.48	Rain
Croston	2.3	7.12	Sunny am
Leeds	1.0	1.19	Shower
Sheffield	0.1	1.19	Rain pm
Manchester	-2.4	11.32	Rain
Cardiff	0.7	11.32	Rain
Birmingham	0.8	11.32	Rain
Nottingham	0.1	11.32	Rain
Leicester	0.1	11.32	Rain
Sheff Hall	0.1	11.32	Rain
Southsea	-4.3	10.50	Rain
Bournemouth	-2.4	11.32	Rain
Bournemouth	-2.4	11.32	Rain
Portsmouth	-2.4	11.32	Rain
Southampton	-2.4	11.32	Rain
Swansea	-2.4	11.32	Rain
Walsby-on-Haze	2.43	3.7	7.7



Yesterday			
Temperature	at midday	at 5 pm	at 10 pm
Belfast	7.45	6.00	5.41
Birmingham	7.45	6.00	5.41
Blackpool	7.45	6.00	5.41
Bristol	7.45	6.00	5.41
Cardiff	7.45	6.00	5.41
Edinburgh	7.45	6.00	5.41

London			
Temperature	at midday	at 5 pm	at 10 pm
Belfast	7.45	6.00	5.41
Birmingham	7.45	6.00	5.41
Blackpool	7.45	6.00	5.41
Bristol	7.45	6.00	5.41
Cardiff	7.45	6.00	5.41
Edinburgh	7.45	6.00	5.41

Highest and lowest			
Temperature	at midday	at 5 pm	at 10 pm
Belfast	7.45	6.00	5.41
Birmingham	7.45	6.00	5.41
Blackpool	7.45	6.00	5.41
Bristol	7.45	6.00	5.41
Cardiff	7.45	6.00	5.41
Edinburgh	7.45	6.00	5.41

High tides

	Today	Tomorrow
London Bridge	4.22	4.22
Aberdeen	4.22	4.22
Avonmouth	4.22	4.22
Belfast	4.22	4.22
Cardiff	4.22	4.22
Dover	4.22	4.22
Falmouth	4.22	4.22
Glasgow	4.22	4.22
Hull	4.22	4.22
Leeds	4.22	4.22
Liverpool	4.22	4.22
London	4.22	4.22
Manchester	4.22	4.22
Nottingham	4.22	4.22
Portsmouth	4.22	4.22
Sheffield	4.22	4.22
Southampton	4.22	4.22
Swansea	4.22	4.22
Tees	4.22	4.22
Walsby-on-Haze	4.22	4.22

Abroad

Abroad									
MDDAY: C, cloud; dr, drizzle; F, fair; m, mist; s, sun; of, clear; an, moon.									
MODAY:		C		F		G		F	
Algeria	12.54	Copenhagen	4.39	Malacca	11.59	81	Re de Jan.	1.27	81
Algeria	12.54	Cortez	4.39	Manila	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Algeria	12.54	Dacca	4.39	Medan	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Amsterdam	12.54	Dubrovnik	11.62	Mexico C	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Frankfurt	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Geneva	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Genoa	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Harbin	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay	12.54	Hankow	11.62	Montevideo	11.59	81	San Francisco	1.27	81
Bombay									